# VISION IAS

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Module No. 226

## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 622)

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|---|---|---|---|
| Name of Candidate | PRATHAMESH KUMAR | | |
| Medium Hindi/Eng. | ENGLISH | Registration Number | 13402 |
| Center | DELHI | Date | 3/11/2015 |

### INDEX TABLE

| Q. No. | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained |
|---|---|---|
| 1(a) | 10 | |
| 1(b) | 10 | |
| 2(a) | 10 | |
| 2(b) | 10 | |
| 3(a) | 10 | |
| 3(b) | 10 | |
| 4(a) | 10 | |
| 4(b) | 10 | |
| 5(a) | 10 | |
| 5(b) | 10 | |
| 6 | 10 | |
| 7 | 10 | |
| 8 | 10 | |
| 9 | 20 | |
| 10 | 20 | |
| 11 | 20 | |
| 12 | 20 | |
| 13 | 20 | |
| 14 | 20 | |

**Total Marks Obtained:**

**Remarks:**

**Signature of Examiner**

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are FOURTEEN questions printed in HINDI and ENGLISH.
   इसमें चौदह प्रश्न हैं तथा हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

# EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. **Alignment Competence**
2. **Context Competence**
3. **Content Competence**
4. **Language Competence**
5. **Introduction Competence**
6. **Structure - Presentation Competence**
7. **Conclusion Competence**

**Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

**All the Best**

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VISION IAS

(1) (a) In this age of information and communication, the image of women portrayed by mass media greatly influences our social attitudes towards them. Critically evaluate. [150 words]

A. Mass media such as newspapers, radio, TV and ~~movies~~ cinema has an incredible propensity to influence people. This arises from its wide reach, attractive programming and presentation techniques and its ability to create 'peer pressure' on an individual.

NEGATIVE PORTRAYAL OF WOMEN

- Many TV serials glorify the docile and obedient women who is expected to serve her husband. This engenders the social roles of women in society.
- Films portray romantic gestures in a way that border on sexual harassment.

Chasing a girl and making improper advances is considered benign. This gives the wrong message to all, especially adolescents.

- Depiction of women's behaviour which is different from that in real life may create conflicts in attitude and behaviour.

POSITIVE PORTRAYAL

- Often, radio programmes and news channels depict independent and strong women who influence the younger generation and inspire them.

- Thus, while mass media can play a positive role in gender sensitization, the image of women portrayed by it is harmful.

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Q.1(b) What is "Social accountability"? How can it act as a more effective mechanism than the conventional methods of extracting accountability? What steps can a civil servant take to improve the effectiveness of social accountability in India?

A. "Social Accountability" (SA) implies:-

(i) answerability regarding effectiveness, economy and efficiency of governmental action to the public (i.e intended beneficiaries)

(ii) transparency and citizen-centric approach in planning and implementing government programmes.

WHY IS SA MORE EFFECTIVE?

- SA involves the beneficiaries in the accountability mechanisms. They are more concerned about their rights/privileges and ensure transparent/correct functioning.
- The citizens are aware of 'local problems'

and 'line-agents' and can help in innovative solutions to local problems.

- Since public programmes are implemented using 'public money', citizens are more concious about such expenditure.
- Top-down accountability is often lost in bureaucratic procedures and is often ineffective. SA forces the civil servant to get proactively.

## HOW TO IMPROVE SA EFFECTIVENESS?

- Involve citizens in planning of local welfare schemes and targeting of beneficiaries.
- Make 'social audits' compulsory.
- Ensure citizen participation during evaluation of govt. tenders.
- Citizen feedback and grievance redressal mechanisms strengthening.
- Proactive citizen engagement with local governments. (popularise RTI). (147)

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Q.2(a) Biometric attendance, punctuality and cleanliness provide only a good start towards the improvement of work culture. A lot more is required to improve the work culture of the Indian bureaucracy and make it more responsive and citizen centric. Comment.

A Work culture of an organisation is extremely important for increasing employee efficiency, effectiveness and morale.

ROLE OF ATTENDANCE (A), PUNCTUALITY (P) AND CLEANLINESS (C)

(A):- Biometric (A) ensures fool-proof accountability. Publishing the records online increases transparency. This enables corrective action against truants.

(P):- (P) increases efficiency, target completion while demonstrating professionalism and dedication. It inspires others.

(C) :- (C) leads to a happy workplace. A cluttered, dirty and disorganized workplace is antithetical to a good work environment.

OTHER FACETS TO IMPROVE WORK CULTURE (WC)

1. Inspirational leadership which displays professionalism, integrity and helpfulness
2. Healthy competition between similar employees.
3. Rewarding innovation, excellence and initiative
4. Regular employee-employer interaction regarding work-related issue.
5. Confidence building and stress busting exercises like corporate retreats which enhance team-work and camaradrie.
6. Quick grievance redressal and employee friendly human resource policies.

(119)

Q.2(b) Of all government activities, public procurement is amongst the one most vulnerable to fraud and corruption. Explain with examples. Further, what steps would you suggest to maintain probity in public procurement.

A. Public Procurement (PP) involves spending public money on goods for governmental use.

WHY PP is vulnerable to corruption?

- Use of Discretion in awarding contracts increases the power of civil servants and increases chances of fraud and nepotism. Eg:-
  - → A bidder may bribe a civil servant (CS) to award a tender to him despite shortcomings in the bid.
  - → The bid conditions may be designed in a manner to unduly favour a particular contractor

- Lack of transparency and low levels of citizen involvement

Ex :→ The selection process for a procurement contract is kept out of the public sphere.

→ Lack of transparency may allow tainted/convicted bidders to enter the auction.

- Huge sums of money involved

→ Public procurement especially for defence projects sum into lakhs of crores.

- Lack of domain knowledge/expertise

→ A procurement order for a mass spectrometer for a biology lab may be used by the contractor to commit fraud in the absence of expertise.

STEPS TO MAINTAIN PROBITY

- Compulsory online auctions of public procurement bids
- Clear SOPs to be followed while selecting.
- Involvement of citizens in designing and evaluating tenders.

- Necessary post-facto auditing
- Encouraging contractors to sign integrity packs as a part of the procurement procedure.
- Blacklisting corrupt contractors.

(180)

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Q.3(a) "Those who say religion has nothing to do with politics do not know what religion is". Explain. Further, examine the role of religion in formation of political attitudes in the Indian context.

A. Both religion and politics draw their power from committed people and aim to mobilise individuals through ideologies. This provides avenues for synergy between them.

RELATIONSHIP B/W RELIGION AND POLITICS

- Religious sentiments influence candidate preferences, voting pattern and political campaigns
  [eg. Republican Party of US appeals to devout Christians]
- Religion used to justify political agendas and decisions
  [eg. decisions to ban abortion in US explained through Christianity]

- Religious events and leaders play an important role in determining political fortunes
[eg. many 'devas' in India aligned to a particular political party]
- Religion used to polarise people and create votebanks
[eg. Muslim League in 1946 elections]

## ROLE OF RELIGION IN POLITICAL ATTITUDES IN INDIA

- Identification with the policies and ideology of a particular party (PP) on the basis of religion.
- PPs use religion to connect with masses
[eg. Iftar parties etc]
- Communal feelings create votebanks, especially prior to elects
[frequent riots before 2014 elections]
- Peer pressure exerted by religious leaders and community members on political attitudes.

(156)

Q.3(b) Emotion can lead to our worst decisions or our best ones: the difference is emotional intelligence." In light of the given statement, illustrate how emotional intelligence is critical in our decision making. How can it help a civil servant in taking prudent decisions?

A. Emotions are a unique 'human' feature and make us distinct from other living beings. Emotional intelligence, or the capability to use emotions in decision making helps us to :-

(i) Perceive our and others' emotions.

(ii) Use emotions as a tool.

(iii) Analyse the reasons for emotions

(iv) Manage emotions.

Example

- A good leader can emotionally appeal to employees and inspire them to meet stringent deadlines.

- An empathetic civil servant puts the needs of the marginalised and vulnerable first.
- By managing personal emotions such as fear, anxiety and amplifying self-belief, a civil servant can counter crises.

## EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND CIVIL SERVANTS

- Empathy towards weaker sections
  (eg. A civil servant who follows Gandhi's Talisman will be conscientious)
- Demonstrate committment through personal example
  [Mr. Sreedharan's probity inspired DMRC]
- Motivate and inspire workers to improve and change.
  [An active minister inspires the bureaucracy]
- Analyse strengths and weaknesses of policies, persons and decisions

(131)

Q. (a) "Anyone who doesn't take truth seriously in small matters cannot be trusted in large ones either". – Albert Einstein. Bring out what this statement means to you in the present context.

A. Truth and Honesty are universally admired and respected values. However, the practice of always telling the truth has to be cultivated into a habit and does not come naturally to all men. Thus, a person who doesn't practise honesty in small matters will undoubtedly deceive both himself and others in issues of consequence too.

- Mr Gandhi stresses the importance of dispassionate truth telling in his autobio-graphy. He says that deception in all matters should be avoided.

- Civil Servants who don't fill out their 'property/income details' properly cannot be expected to be transparent in their public functions.
- An employee who lies about being sick to take leave will undoubtedly be inefficient in his professional work also.
- Lying is a form of escapism. A person who lies will ~~to~~ shirk responsibility.
- To me, honesty in all things, personal or professional, small or big is absolutely essential.

  → Dishonesty is always discovered and raises questions on one's character.

  → 'Small Lies' easily convert into 'big lies' since we have to lie again and again to support the initial 'small lie'.

Q.4(b) Recent incidents of moral policing are symptomatic of the growing intolerance in Indian society. Analyse with examples. Suggest some measures to address this issue.

A Moral policing is a situation where the society, or some elements in the society try to impose their moral convictions and ideology and restrict individual choices and liberties.

EXAMPLES

- Attack on 'pubs' and 'women who drink' and terming them as 'immoral'.
- Violence against people who 'eat beef'
- Attacking couples who walk together or hold hands
- Blaming women's apparel choices for sexual violence.

REASONS

Reactions against

- Increased rate of social change due to globalisation and cultural influences
- Diminishing of role of traditional patriarchal ~~roles~~ institutions leads to their forceful reassertion. (eg. Khap panchayats are a reaction against declining role of societal influence in marriage etc.)
- Conflict between religious and ~~moral~~ 'cultural' values and practices.

SUGGESTIONS

- Increased literacy is essential. Illiterate and inward looking people are more susceptible to such 'moral policing'.
- Intergenerational contact ~~and~~
- Effective political will against moral policing; removal of tacit support to such elements
- Effective police action against criminal activities.
- Ethical education to highlight the importance of seeing other viewpoints.

Q. 5(a) What do you understand by the term 'conflict of interest'? What are the norms prescribed for Civil Services in India to deal with this issue?

A. 'Conflict of interest' refers to a situation where two sets of ethical principles may be at odds. This may be a conflict between private and professional lives/interests or a conflict between 'accountability' or 'efficiency'.

In public service, it refers to to a situation where the personal interests of the civil servant (such as pecuniary motives, professional advancement, feelings for relatives) take precedence over his professional goals (welfare of the community)

EXAMPLE

- When a civil servants awards a procurement

contract to his friend/ relative, the decision may be biased

- An official of the Education Department may be inclined to provide more funding to the school where her daughter studies.

NORMS IN INDIA

(A) 'Conflict of Interest' is countered through the relevant provisions of the Central Services (Code of Conduct) Rules and the All-India (Code of Conduct) Rules

(1) Mandatory for public officials (PO) to file disclosure statements regarding income and source of wealth.

(2) POs should disclose when they receive a gift in their capacity as a govt. official.

(3) Restrictions on POs to join a political party

(4) POs are expected to withdraw from actions/decisions that involve their relatives/ dependents.

(B) Apart from these rules, the Prevention of Corruption Act acts as a barrier to civil servants who seek to abuse their office ~~for~~. (186)

Q.5(b) Although most public organisations have a code of conduct for their employees, the impact has been less than satisfactory in combating the misuse of office by public servants. Explain. Provide some suggestions to make the code of conduct a more comprehensive tool in dealing with corruption in public offices.

A. 'Codes of Conduct' (CoC); i.e. documents prescribing do's and don't for employees and managers have become ubiquitous in all organisations today. However, their impact on employee performance and ensuring probity has been minimal, especially in public servants.

REASONS

- ~~Ed~~ CoC are often not backed by punitive

and accountability mechanisms.

- 'CoC's are unnecessary detailed and can not be put into practise and are therefore ignored in public service.
- Lack of emphasis on adherence to CoC in organisation's work culture.

HOW TO MAKE CoC's MORE EFFECTIVE TO DEAL WITH CORRUPTION?

- Adding strong disincentives and punishments for employees who flout CoCs.
- Emphasis by leadership through inspiration and example to achieve CoC adherence.
- Rationalisation of CoCs and employee participation while drafting.
- Linking adherence of CoC to career advancement.
- A 'Code of Ethics' detailing 'values of public service' to supplement CoCs
- Frequent workshops and trainings to revive CoC's importance.
- Awareness among citizens about CoCs so they can hold employees to account.

Q.6 'Citizen charter' has recently emerged as an innovative tool for reinforcing citizen-centric governance. Explain the statement and analyse the various constraints faced during the implementation of the Citizen Charter in the Indian Administrative System

A. A 'citizen charter' is a set of document which:-

(i) details the services offered by the organisation and the time taken to provide them

(ii) quality standards provided by the organisation.

(iii) aims and objectives of org.

(iv) grievance redressal and accountability mechanism.

Started in 1990s, it is now an irreplaceable means to ensure that governance is transparent, citizen-friendly and transparent.

CONSTRAINTS FACED DURING IMPLEMENTATION

- Low awareness among consumers (citizens) regarding citizen charters. (CCs)
- Lack of enthusiasm amongst employees regarding CCs.
- Employees and citizens not involved in framing of CCs defeats the purpose of responsive govt.
- CCs often set unachievable targets regarding service delivery.
- CCs are very rarely updated or reviewed.
- CCs are often put in place without process reengineering needed to provide better services
- Accountability mechanisms in CCs are rarely enforced.

(119)

Q.7 An efficient service delivery is the key to winning the public trust in government. What are the challenges being faced in efficient delivery of public services? Suggest some measures to improve the delivery of public services.

A. Proper and good governance is the efficient, economic and quick delivery of public services. It satisfies the citizenry and is an essential component of development.

CHALLENGES FACED IN SERVICE DELIVERY (SD)

* Lack of motivation, professionalism and competence in the executive agencies and personnel at the line.
* Poorly designed policies, schemes and statutes lead to leakages, corruption and nepotism.

* Lack of ethical guidance to solve 'conflicts of interest' and professional dilemmas.

* Low transparency measures and dysfunctional accountability mechanisms.

* Ineffective citizen participation in policy design, ~~cita~~ execution and assessment.

* Distinction needed between essential and non-essential services.

* No emphasis on the principle of subsidiarity and instead overcentralizing

MEASURES TO IMPROVE

* Outsourcing of non-essential public functions to a more effective organisation which is properly regulated

* Citizen participation – citizen's charters, RTI, pre-policy discussions, public hearings.

* Mandatory social/citizen audits.

* Weeding out corrupt employees.

* Motivated/Trained Leadership
* Regular seminars to refresh ethical issues.
* Delegating powers to PRIs/ULBs.

Q.8 Explain the importance of diligence as a value for a civil servant. How can it be inculcated among civil servants?

A. Diligence implies carefulness and perseverance. The work of a civil servant is quite varied and error-prone. However, errors, especially in public service may have a deleterious effect and hence carefulness is important

Example :- Diligent inspection of highway design by a PWD engineer can reduce accidents.

Perseverance is important in light of the difficult working conditions, centrifugal challenges and crises that a public servant has to encounter in his work

Example :- To improve literacy rates, a sustained campaign to provide ~~not~~ infra

and change social mores is needed. It requires diligence.

## HOW TO INCULCATE DILIGENCE

- Recruiting motivated and ~~trained~~ inspired officials is essential.
- Proper training which emphasis professionalism
- A work culture which promotes innovation and rewards the hard-working and motivated.
- Incentives (such as differentiated pay structures) and disincentives (such as staggered promotions) to inspire diligence.
- Leadership which can exhort employees to be diligent
- Allowing autonomy and flexibility to employees.

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## Section B

**In the following questions, carefully study the cases presented and then answer the questions that follow (in around 250 words):**

9. You are posted in a district as a public servant responsible for looking into the matters of violation of Right to Education Act. You came across a case in which a poor farmer had beaten his daughter for not going to take her fifth class annual exams. Eventually, he tied her up with his motorbike and took her to the examination hall. Corporal punishment to the children by parents or teachers is a punishable offence with three month jail term.

When you enquired about it the poor farmer explained that he had done so for ensuring a better future for her daughter as he does not want his children to live in poverty in which he is living. He also says that his economic condition is poor and if he is taken to jail his children will face severe hardships.

आप एक जिले में लोक सेवक के रूप में नियुक्त हैं जिस पर शिक्षा का अधिकार अधिनियम के उल्लंघन से सम्बंधित प्रकरणों पर दृष्टि बनाए रखने का उत्तरदायित्व है। एक प्रकरण आपके संज्ञान में आया जिसमें एक निर्धन किसान ने अपनी पुत्री की पांचवी कक्षा की परीक्षा न देने जाने पर पिटाई कर दी। अंततः, उसने उसे अपनी मोटरसाइकिल से बांधा और परीक्षा भवन ले गया। माता-पिता या शिक्षक के द्वारा किसी बच्चे को शारीरिक दण्ड दिया जाना एक दण्डनीय अपराध है जिसके लिए तीन महीने की कैद हो सकती है।

आपने जब उक्त प्रकरण की जांच की तो निर्धन किसान ने बताया कि उसने अपनी पुत्री का बेहतर भविष्य सुनिश्चित करने हेतु ऐसा किया। वह नहीं चाहता कि उसके बच्चे भी उसी के समान निर्धनता में जीवन जीयें। उसका यह भी कहना है कि उसकी आर्थिक दशा अत्यंत दुर्बल है और यदि उसे कारागार भेजा गया तो उसके बच्चों को घोर कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ेगा।

(a) What are the options available to you?
आपके पास कौन-से विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?

(b) Evaluate each of these options and choose the option which you would adopt, giving reasons. 20
इन विकल्पों में से प्रत्येक का मूल्यांकन करें और आप जिस विकल्प को चुनेंगे, उसका कारण बताएं। 20

The ethical issue involved in this case are :-

(i) Empathy for the weaker sections
(ii) Conflict between laws and values.
(iii) Obligation as a public servant to follow laws.



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(iv) Ability to be flexible while implementing laws.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

① → Take farmer to jail for violating RTE

② → Ignore provisions of RTE as farmer did the right thing and is very poor

③ → Considering the farmer's position, commute his punishment (if possible) while impressing upon him the evils of corporal punishment and ensuring that he doesn't repeat the act

④ → If commuting the ~~act~~ punishment is not possible, making provisions for the girl and her siblings by coordinating with other departments and their relatives.

COURSE OF ACTION SUGGESTED

(i) ① is unreasonable and will be a very cruel treatment to a poor citizen.

Jail will reduce economic opportunities

and ultimately cause greater burden on the girl itself which may reduce her attendance.

(ii) (2) → is not suggested as it involves us violating a law as a public official and implicitly condoning corporal punishment

(iii) The correct approach may be as follows

(1) Firstly, find the reasons why the girl was reluctant to appear in the exams. Involve the teachers, classmates, principals. Find out the best solutions to interest the girl in Education.

(2) For the farmer, a commuted punishment should suffice. A jail term for a week or two will impress upon him the severity of the act. Further, his family members, the girl's teachers and other neighbours must be involved to explain why corporal punishment is an offence and how it ultimately harms the child.

(3) It must be ensured that there is no repetition of such an act. The girl must be encouraged to approach us or the teachers directly in case of reoccurrence

(4) In case, the penalty cannot be commuted, adequate arrangements must be made for the girl and her siblings. Coordination with the Anganwadi centres, provisions may be made for meals and shelter for 3 months. Further, her regular counselling through AWW and teachers is essential. ~~We may be~~

~~If any Girls' Hostels~~ ~~o~~

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**10.** You retired as a finance manager from a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU). After retirement you are offered a job in a private company as its finance head and you have accepted it. The company has a procurement contract with the PSU which you worked for. Now that contract is up for renewal through competitive bidding. You have been asked to lead the team responsible for bidding of this contract.

While working in the PSU, you had an opportunity to work on areas relating to financial accounting, procurement, contracts and bids. You are concerned that you might breach the confidentiality if you accept the assignment in the present company. You also suspect that your knowledge and experience of working in the PSU were seen as good reasons for appointing you to the position in the present company.

The loss of such a major contract would have a significant effect on the financial performance of Company. Evaluate the merits and demerits of each of the options given below and finally suggest what course of action you would like to take, providing adequate reasons.

आप सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के एक उपक्रम (पी.एस.यू.) से वित्त प्रबंधक के रूप में सेवा निवृत्त हुए हैं। सेवा निवृत्ति के पश्चात् आपको एक निजी कंपनी में वित्त प्रमुख के पद पर नौकरी का प्रस्ताव आता है और आपने इसे स्वीकार भी कर लिया है। जिस पी.एस.यू. में आप कार्यरत्त थे उसके साथ इस कंपनी का सरकारी अधिप्राप्ति/खरीद हेतू एक अनुबंध है। अब चूँकि उस अनुबंध का प्रतिस्पर्द्धात्मक रूप से बोली लगा कर पुनर्नवीकरण किया जाना है, आपको उस टीम का नेतृत्व करने को कहा गया है जिसे इस अनुबंध के लिए बोली लगाने का उत्तरदायित्व सौंपा गया है।

पी.एस.यू. में काम करने के दौरान आपको उन विषयों पर काम करने का अवसर प्राप्त हुआ था जो वित्तीय लेखा कार्य, सरकारी अधिप्राप्ति और अनुबंधों से सम्बंधित है। आपको इस बात की चिंता है कि यदि आप वर्तमान कंपनी में इस नियत कार्य को स्वीकार करते हैं तो हो सकता है आप गोपनीयता भंग करें। आपको इस बात का भी संदेह है कि सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में कार्य करने के संबंध में आपके ज्ञान एवं अनुभव को वर्तमान कंपनी में उक्त पद पर आपकी नियुक्ति के सकारात्मक कारण के रूप में लिया गया था।

इतने बड़े अनुबंध का न मिलना कंपनी के वित्तीय प्रदर्शन पर महत्वपूर्ण प्रभाव डालेगा। नीचे दिए गए विकल्पों में से प्रत्येक के गुण एवं दोष का मूल्यांकन करें और पर्याप्त कारण बताते हुए अंततः सुझाएँ कि आप कौन-से विकल्प का चयन करेंगे?

i. Do not accept the assignment as it will lead to breach of confidentiality.
इस नियत कार्य को स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे चूँकि इससे गोपनीयता भंग होती है।

ii. Do not lead the team but guide them from outside.
टीम का नेतृत्व नहीं करेंगे किन्तु इसे बाहर से मार्गदर्शन प्रदान करेंगे।

iii. Accept to lead the team and use your expertise in bidding for the contract.
टीम का नेतृत्व स्वीकार करेंगे और बोली लगाने हेतु अपनी विशेषज्ञता का उपयोग करेंगे।



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iv. Resign from the job.
नौकरी से त्यागपत्र दे देंगे।

Suggest any other possible option(s). Evaluate all of them and suggest the best course of action, giving your reasons for it. 20

किसी और संभव विकल्प/विकल्पों का सुझाव दें। उनमे से सभी का मूल्यंकन करें और कारण बताते हुए सर्वोत्तम कार्यवाही का सुझाव दें। 20

A The ethical issues involved are:-

(i) conflict of interest regarding previous and current employments.

(ii) improper use of 'inside information' to gain an advantage in a fair bid.

(iii) subversion of public interest.

EVALUATING COURSES OF ACTION

(A) OPTION (1)

MERITS

(1) The breach of confidentiality will be avoided

(2) Fiduciary knowledge related to the PSU will be secure

(3) The sanctity of the bidding process shall be maintained.

DEMERITS

(1) Interests of the current employer will not be



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be fulfilled

(2) Our position at the company may be in danger and the company may even suffer loss.

(B) OPTION (2)

MERITS

(1) Direct intervention which may have ~~made the~~ been unethical has been avoided while maintaining some semblance of integrity.

(2) The interest of the company are fulfilled.

DEMERITS

(1) 'Guiding from outside' is still a subversion of the competitive bidding process.

(2) In fact, such 'outside intervention' may be perceived even more unethical.

(C) OPTION (3)

MERITS

(1) The likelihood of the company getting the contract will increase tremendously with ostensible private gains to us.

DEMERITS

(1) Such an acceptance without informing the PSU.

will be an attack on the integrity of public services and should be avoided.

(2) In fact, in many situations, such an involvement of retired personnel is expressly prohibited. [The Code of Conduct Rules prohibit a civil servant from joining a private company within 2 yrs of retirement)

SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION

(1) Transparency is essential. Considering our previous acquaintance with the PSU, the bid manager should be fully informed of our predicament. If possible, the same issue may be conveyed to other participants at the pre bid meeting. In case of any objections, we must desist from participating.

(2) Even when no objections are raised, we must listen to our conscience. Even if we do not try to use our expertise, allegations of the same may very well be raised.

(3) Also, we must clarify with our manager whether our familiarity with the bidding process was the only reason for appointment.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

**11.** You are the district officer responsible for implementing the government schemes in the district. One of the schemes is to provide financial assistance to poor students completing their Class XII so that they can join college comfortably. But, due to unexpectedly good results there arises a shortage of funds for the scheme. However, the funds are available in another scheme of housing which are unutilized, but need approval from senior officials and may take more than a month and by that time the admissions will be over.

आप एक जिले में सरकारी योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन के लिए उत्तरदायी एक जिला अधिकारी हैं। योजनाओं में से एक 12वीं कक्षा उत्तीर्ण कर रहे निर्धन छात्रों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने की योजना है ताकि वे सुविधाजनक ढंग से महाविद्यालयों में नामांकन करा सकें। किन्तु, अनापेक्षित अच्छे परीक्षा परिणामों के कारण इस योजना के लिए निधि की कमी हो जाती है। यद्यपि, एक अन्य गृह निर्माण योजना में निधि उपलब्ध है जिसका उपयोग अब तक नहीं किया गया है, किन्तु उस निधि के उपयोग के लिए वरीय अधिकारियों से स्वीकृति लिए जाने की आवश्यकता है जिसमें एक महीने से अधिक समय लग सकता है, और तब तक नामांकन का समय निकल जाएगा।

Given below are few options that you can take:
नीचे कुछ विकल्प दिए गए हैं जिन्हें आप अपना सकते हैं:

1. Send the request for funds diversion and pursue the case with the senior officials to get it done quickly.
   निधि के दिक्कपरिवर्तन हेतु आग्रह भेजें और इसे शीघ्रता पूर्वक संपन्न करने हेतु वरीय अधिकारियों के पास मामले को आगे बढायें।

2. Promise to deliver the rewards next month as you cannot do anything now.
   चूँकि आप अभी कुछ और नहीं कर सकते इसलिए पारितोषिक अगले महीने देने का वचन दें।

3. Prepare some fictitious names that need a house & transfer the funds from housing scheme to this scheme considering the urgency of case and future of children.
   Suggest any other possible option(s). Evaluate all of them and suggest the best course of action, giving your reasons for it. 20

   कुछ काल्पनिक नाम तैयार करें जिन्हें घर की आवश्यकता हो, और निधि को गृह-निर्माण योजना से निकाल कर प्रकरण की अत्यावश्यकता एवं बच्चों के भविष्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए उसे इस योजना में अतंरित कर दें।
   किसी और संभव विकल्प/विकल्पों का सुझाव दें। उनमे से सभी का मूल्यांकन करें तथा कारण बताते हुए सर्वोत्तम कार्यवाही का सुझाव दें। 20



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VISION IAS

A The situation involves the following ethical issues :-

(i) Dedication towards work.
(ii) Conflict between laws/rules/procedure and conscience
(iii) Empathy towards the weaker sections.
(iv) Professionalism
(v) Integrity, especially wrt public funds

EVALUATING OPTIONS

OPTION ① : MERITS

Ⓐ Proper procedure has been followed.
Ⓑ No allegations of integrity violation / misuse of funds can be made

DEMERITS

Ⓐ Shortage of funds will remain affecting the career of many poor students
Ⓑ This option does not show employee dedication, innovation or flexibility.

OPTION ② : MERITS

Ⓐ Adopted the 'official procedure'.

DEMERITS

Ⓐ 'Escapist approach. No extra efforts have

been made to fulfill the requests of the citizen.

(B) No empathy towards the poor student

(C) Not recommended.

OPTION (3) MERITS

(A) The problem of the poor student has been solved.

DEMERITS

(A) Misuse of public funds and misappropriation.

(B) Despite one best intentions, this method is illegal and should be not carried out.

SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION

(1) Requests for fund diversion should be sent as quickly as possible and the case personally pursued at the appropriate level.

(2) In the meantime, following steps may be taken.

(i) District officers have a substantial amount as 'discretionary fund' or 'special service fund' which may be used in this situation.

(ii) Use of local bodies, zila panchayats (ZP) to raise funds for the children. Excess funds parked in the account of the ZP may be appropriated after its approval.

(iii) Since non-availability of funds is in effect, the mistake of the govt, a letter/certificate/undertaking should be provided to the students which will enable them to gain admission to a college pending fees payment (for 2 months) The concerned education officer may be involved in this procedure.

(3) Future feedback and scheme appraisal should include suggestions for increasing the funds available in the scheme especially during the period after results.

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**12.** A District Magistrate, posted in a district affected by left wing extremism,was abducted by the extremists while he was on a routine inspection tour to assess the progress of the development work in one of the villages. After abduction, extremists demanded the release of two of their leaders who are accused of involvement in the violent attack on the police convoy few months back. After few days of continued negotiations, the centre and state governments agreed to accept the demands of extremists in return for release of the District Magistrate. During the time when District Magistrate was held captive, he was treated well by the extremists and many extremists and even locals came to visit him in order to point out the problems in the service delivery, excesses of the police and paramilitary forces in a very convincing manner. After being released, the District Magistrate comes to you to seek advice on how to deal with the issues, which arose out of his abduction. Some of the suggestions are as follows:

एक जिला मजिस्ट्रेट, जो वामपंथी अतिवाद से प्रभावित जिले में नियुक्त हैं, उनका अतिवादियों द्वारा तब अपहरण कर लिया गया जब वे एक गाँव से विकास कार्यों की प्रगति का मूल्यांकन संबंधी एक नियमित निरीक्षण दौरे से लौट रहे थे। अपहरण के पश्चात, अतिवादियों ने कुछ माह पूर्व एक पुलिस काफिले पर हिंसक आक्रमण में संलग्न होने के आरोपी अपने दो नेताओं की रिहाई की शर्त रखी। सतत मध्यस्थताओं के कुछ दिनों के पश्चात, केंद्र और राज्य सरकारें जिला मजिस्ट्रेट की रिहाई के बदले उन अतिवादियों की मांग स्वीकार करने को सहमत हो गयीं। जिला मजिस्ट्रेट के बंदी रहने के दौरान, अतिवादियों द्वारा उनसे अच्छा व्यवहार किया गया और बहुत-से अतिवादी और स्थानीय जनता भी सेवा वितरण में व्याप्त समस्याओं, पुलिस और अर्द्ध-सैनिक बलों की ज्यादतियों को उजागर करने हेतु उनसे मिलने आये। रिहा किए जाने के पश्चात, जिला मजिस्ट्रेट इस मुद्दे पर आपसे विचार-विमर्श करने के लिए आपके पास आ रहे हैं कि उन मुद्दों से कैसे निपटा जाए जो उनके अपहरण के दौरान उठे थे। कुछ सुझाव निम्न हैं:

1. The District Magistrate should file a criminal case against the extremists for his abduction and help the security forces in whatever way he can to catch the culprits and also request for a transfer.
   जिला मजिस्ट्रेट को अपने अपहरण के लिए अतिवादियों के विरुद्ध एक आपराधिक मुकद्दमा दायर करना चाहिए और अपराधियों को पकड़ने के लिए सुरक्षा बलों की यथासंभव सहायता करना चाहिए और साथ ही उन्हें स्थानान्तरण के लिए आग्रह करना चाहिए।
2. The District Magistrate should take up a review of status of developmental work in that region while leading the audit himself; but at the same time work on new innovative strategies so that locals can be made free from the control of extremists, treating the incidence as a wakeup call.
   जिला मजिस्ट्रेट को उस क्षेत्र में विकास कार्यों की स्थिति का पुनर्मूल्यांकन करना चाहिए तथा स्वयं लेखा परीक्षण का नेतृत्व करना चाहिए; किन्तु साथ-साथ उन्हें इस घटना को चेतावनी के रूप में प्रयोग करते हुए नवोन्मेषी रणनीतियों पर भी कार्य करना चाहिए ताकि स्थानीय जनता को अतिवादियों के चंगुल से मुक्त किया जा सके।



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3. The District Magistrate should inform about his experience to higher authorities and take the moral responsibility by tendering his resignation as he has not only failed to streamline the public service delivery in the district but also because of him two extremists are free.

जिला मजिस्ट्रेट को अपने अनुभवों के बारे में उच्चतर अधिकारियों को बताना चाहिए और नैतिक उत्तरदायित्व स्वीकार करते हुए अपना त्यागपत्र सौंप देना चाहिए क्योंकि वह न सिर्फ सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण को कारगर बना पाने में असफल रहे हैं बल्कि उनके कारण दो अतिवादियों को भी मुक्त करना पड़ा।

Suggest any other possible option(s). Evaluate all of them and suggest the best course of action, giving your reasons for it. 20

किसी और संभव विकल्प/विकल्पों का सुझाव दें। उन सभी का मूल्यांकन करें और कारण बताते हुए सबसे अच्छी कार्यवाही का सुझाव दें। 20

A The ~~issue~~ situation involve the following issues:-

(i) Qualities of courage, perseverance and compassion.

(ii) Understanding that LWE is not merely a security problem but a consequence of development and governance deficit.

(iii) Being a communicate professional.

(iv) Learning from experience.

EVALUATING COURSES OF ACTION

OPTION (1)

MERITS: (1) Send the clear message that violence and crime will not be tolerated.

(2) Attack left wing extremists.



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DEMERITS : (1) A security-led approach will never provide a long-term solution (given harsh excesses of paramilitary)

(2) Despite good treatment, our response is excessively harsh

(3) Requisitions for a transfer demonstrates escapism and weakness

OPTION (2)

MERITS : (1) Personal experience and feedback of the locals will be incorporated into the audit

(2) Personal leadership may convince the locals of your ~~people~~ eagerness to solve their problems and they may renounce the extremists.

(3) Development will ensure that LWE problems are quickly solved

DEMERITS: (1) No reference is made to the people/extremists who indulged in kidnapping. Failure to act against them can further violence.

OPTION (3)

MERITS : (1) Responsibility of the mistakes in service delivery has been accepted but the will to learn from them and rededicate yourself

to public service is missing. This is again an escapist approach and does not help in solving the problems of the citizen.

SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION {POSSIBLE OPTION}

(1) The steps of option (2) have to be taken as quickly as possible. They may further include:-

(i) involvement of locals in designing schemes, identification of schemes and service delivery

(ii) removing corrupt officials

(iii) Enhancing access of locals to your office

(iv) IEC campaigns to enhance positive image of the government and providing employment opportunities to the locals in govt

(2) An appropriate 'surrender and rehabilitation' policy needs to be designed with proper monetary incentives

(3) Coordination with the officers of the armed forces to sort out problems of police excesses.

(4) Time bound projects and infrastructure construction should be started

(5) Seniors should be convinced that given your current experience, you are the best possible choice to lead the development effort in the area.

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**13.** Developing countries are often very vulnerable to exploitation by multi-national corporations. They support industrialization but lack of infrastructure is a major limiting factor. Further, without suitable laws and regulations, developing nations are ill prepared for such endeavours. In their efforts to attract business, these nations often overlook the health and safety violations by the corporations doing business within their borders. Drawn by low-cost labour, new markets, and lower operation costs, corporations have little incentive to address environmental and human risks once they are entrenched. In this situation there is imminent threat of disaster.

Discuss some feasible strategies to balance economic development and safety and security of people at large in developing countries with special emphasis on India. 20

विकासशील देश प्रायः बहु-राष्ट्रीय निगमों के शोषण के प्रति बहुत असुरक्षित होते हैं। वे औद्योगीकरण के समर्थक होते हैं किन्तु अवसंरचना का अभाव एक बड़ी बाधा बन कर प्रस्तुत होती है। इसके अतिरिक्त, उपयुक्त कानूनों और विनियामकों के आभाव के कारण विकासशील देश ऐसे उद्यमों के लिए सही प्रकार से तैयार नहीं होते। व्यावसाय को आकर्षित करने के अपने प्रयासों में ऐसे देश अपनी सीमाओं के भीतर व्यापार कर रहे निगमों के द्वारा स्वास्थ्य और सुरक्षा संबंधी उल्लंघनों की अनदेखी कर देते हैं। निम्न श्रम लागत, नए बाज़ारों और अपेक्षाकृत निम्न संचालन संबंधी लागतों के द्वारा आकर्षित ये निगम एक बार भलीभांति स्थापित हो जाने के बाद वातावरण और मानवीय खतरों की कदाचित ही परवाह करते हैं। इस स्थिति में, आपदाओं का ख़तरा आसन्न होता है।

भारत पर विशेष बल देते हुए विकासशील देशों में आर्थिक विकास एवं जनता की सुरक्षा व संरक्षा को संतुलित करने हेतु कुछ व्यवहार्य रणनीतियों पर चर्चा करें। 20

A. Developing countries are seen as a source of cheap labour by many MNCs who are also attracted by the weak regulatory environment in the country. However, their business practices are quite often unethical and carry huge social, economic and ever-



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physical costs to the employees.

EXAMPLE

- Apparel manufacturers such as Nike have unsafe factories in B'desh where fires kill many people.
- Employment of child labour in many contractors of MNCs.

STRATEGIES

1. A stable, coherent and efficient regulatory environment with the capacity to monitor and implement labour standards. In India, this would require rationalising the role of 'labour inspectors'.
2. Information, Education and Communication among the employers regarding statutorily mandated minimum working conditions.
3. Promoting formation of unions and Self-Help Groups to increase their collective bargaining power.
4. Increasing the access of local self governments and PRIs to the factories so that they can

monitor compliance with laws.

(5) Ensuring that the main company is also responsible for the activities of its ~~employees~~ 'contractors' since most of the human and environmental hazards are 'outsourced'.

(6) Adding accidental liability clauses to the investment agreements on the line of the Civil Nuclear Liability Act.

(7) Skill development of the population in an accelerated manner to ensure access to productive employments with safer working conditions

(8) Comprehensive and strict laws against Child labour and prohibiting <u>ALL</u> child labour below the age of 14 years.

(9) Providing funds and expertise to the civil society organisations who work with the people employed in such MNCs

(10) Reducing the cost of compliance, i.e. many MNCs do not follow regulations and are not transparent because their interaction with govt is not good.

(11) Rehabilitation and Alternate Employment for those who suffer.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

**14.** You are a middle ranked MCD employee, overseeing an anti-encroachment drive in New Delhi in order to broaden a very busy road. Many illegal constructions on the road have been demolished. It was all happening without much protest but when the bulldozer reached near an illegal religious construction, some people belonging to that particular community came out and formed a human chain to stop the demolition. At the same time some people from another religious group came out insisting the immediate demolition of the site. Both groups were about to clash violently. You handled the situation quite well, by pacifying the crowd and calling in enough police force, which was prepared in advance to deal with such a situation, nonetheless, the above incident raises the following serious questions:

आप दिल्ली नगर निगम के मध्य स्तरीय कर्मचारी हैं तथा एक अत्यंत व्यस्त सड़क को चौड़ा करने के लिए एक अतिक्रमण विरोधी अभियान का निरीक्षण कर रहे हैं। सड़क पर बहुतेरे अवैध निर्माणों को ध्वस्त कर दिया गया है। यह सब बिना किसी विशेष प्रतिरोध के हो रहा था किन्तु जैसे ही बुलडोज़र एक अवैध धार्मिक निर्माण के पास पहुंचा, उस समुदाय से सम्बंधित कुछ लोग बाहर आये और उन्होंने ध्वस्त करने की कार्यवाही को रोकने के लिए एक मानव श्रृंखला बना ली। उसी समय, अन्य धार्मिक समूह के कुछ लोग भी उस निर्माण को तत्काल हटाये जाने की मांग करते हुए सामने आ गए। दोनों समूहों के बीच हिंसक झड़प होने ही वाली थी। आपने लोगों को शांत करवा कर एवं ऐसी किसी भी स्थिति से निपटने के लिए तैयार किए गए पुलिस बल को पर्याप्त संख्या में बुला कर स्थिति को ठीक प्रकार नियंत्रित किया , तथापि उपर्युक्त घटना निम्नलिखित गंभीर प्रश्न खड़े करती है:

(a) What kind of Psycho-emotional and attitudinal factors give birth to this religious competitiveness?

किस प्रकार की मनो-भावनात्मक और अभिवृत्ति संबंधी कारक धार्मिक प्रतिस्पर्द्धा की ऐसी भावनाओं को जन्म देते हैं?

(b) What is the use of emotional intelligence if such a situation arises? Discuss.

यदि ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न होती है तो भावात्मक समझ का क्या उपयोग हो सकता है? चर्चा करें।

(c) How can religion be used as a uniting force instead of a dividing one?

धर्म को विभाजनकारी शक्ति के स्थान पर एकताबद्ध करने वाली शक्ति के रूप में किस प्रकार उपयोग किया जा सकता है?

Answer the above questions from an ethical perspective. 20

नीतिपरक दृष्टिकोण से उपर्युक्त प्रश्नों के उत्तर दें। 20

A (a) Religious competitiveness is a form of 'soft communalism' stoked by the following



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psycho-social and attitudinal factors.

(i) Fear psychosis amongst minorities regarding the intentions of majorities

(ii) Perception of 'Us' vs 'Them' and intense animosity across religious lines

(iii) Members of other religious community are painted in a negative light by parents, teachers and social leaders

(iv) Equating religion with honour increases chances of clash.

(v) Permeability of religion in almost every facet of life further enhances the probability of conflict

(vi) Lack of reasoned arguments and belief in superstitions and rumours

(b) 'Emotional Intelligence' grants us the ability to understand the other person's emotions and viewpoints.

USE OF EIQ HERE

- Quickly anticipate when others' religious feelings are hurt and make appropriate arrangements
- Empathize with other people and make an emotional connection. EI will enable.

a community leader or a public servant to convince the public that his action is not directed towards any other religion.

- Further, EI abilities allow a person to bring about emotional changes in other persons. Thus a volatile situation may be managed.

(c) Religion, if used as a positive force, can help to cement the ties within a society.

USE RELIGION AS A UNITING FORCE

- Separation of politics from religion through laws, conventions and emotional appeals
- Promoting inter-religious participation in each others festivals
- Enhancing knowledge about other religions
- Involving community leaders and members of peace communities to enhance cross-religious contact
- Emphasizing that the basic tenets and messages of all religions are the same.

# VISION IAS

Module No: 226

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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 623)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Name of Candidate | PRATHAMESH KUMAR | | |
| Medium Hindi/Eng. | ENG | Registration Number | 13402 |
| Center | DELHI DL | Date | 11/10/2015 |

### INDEX TABLE

| Q. No. | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 12.5 | |
| 2 | 12.5 | |
| 3 | 12.5 | |
| 4 | 12.5 | |
| 5 | 12.5 | |
| 6 | 12.5 | |
| 7 | 12.5 | |
| 8 | 12.5 | |
| 9 | 12.5 | |
| 10 | 12.5 | |
| 11 | 12.5 | |
| 12 | 12.5 | |
| 13 | 12.5 | |
| 14 | 12.5 | |
| 15 | 12.5 | |
| 16 | 12.5 | |
| 17 | 12.5 | |
| 18 | 12.5 | |
| 19 | 12.5 | |
| 20 | 12.5 | |

**Total Marks Obtained:**

**Remarks:**

**Signature of Examiner**

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in HINDI and ENGLISH.
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं तथा हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

# EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. **Alignment Competence**
2. **Context Competence**
3. **Content Competence**
4. **Language Competence**
5. **Introduction Competence**
6. **Structure - Presentation Competence**
7. **Conclusion Competence**

**Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

**All the Best**

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VISION IAS

Q.1 Though women empowerment has become an important development goal in policy making, it does not protect women from gender violence. Comment in the context of India. [200 words]

A. Women empowerment and ensuring gender parity have become an important aspect of all welfare programmes. Although substantial progress has been observed in both the economic and social spheres, (eg. increase in the literacy rate and decline of maternal mortality rates) the high degree to which gender violence is entrenched in the society suggests that gender equality is a distant dream..

Gender violence is manifested in:-

(a) crimes against women, incl. rape, murder, acid attacks, eve teasing

(b) caste violence which often targets women.

## REASONS FOR GENDER VIOLENCE

- Patriarchal society which treats women as secondary citizens
- Women considered as 'property' and associated with notions of 'honour' and 'purity' due to socio-religious reasons.
- High degree of kinship, especially in rural areas which further subjugates women to social control mechanisms.

## NEED TO FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

- Welfare programmes mostly focus on economic amelioration. While this does provide confidence to women, it is not sufficient to improve their position in the society.
- A sustained Behavioural change campaign through information, education and communication to underscore the equality of women is essential. eg. (Beti Bachao, Beti

Padhao campaign, highlighting gender violence in PM's independence day address)

- Improving both the implementation of laws and the mentality of the responders in the criminal justice system will ensure that women can freely report violence.
- Grass roots activism by using the services of ASHA and Anganwadi Women Workers to catalyse social change.
- Including aspects of gender violence in the school curriculum for sensitising the citizens of tomorrow.
- Effective targeting of caste violence.

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VISION IAS

Q.2 "Globalization will end up making all cultures of the world homogenous". Critically examine the statement taking examples from socio-cultural and economic life of India. [200 words]

A. Globalisation has led to a continuous exchange of not only capital, human resources and knowledge but also cultures. This intermixing has been perceived by many the homogenisation of all the cultures of the world.

EXAMPLES OF HOMOGENISATION

- Clothing : Traditional indian clothes such as 'sari' and 'kurta-pyjama' have been rejected in favour of the ubiquitous 'T-shirts' and jeans (western attires)

- Food : With the influx of global giants such

as McDonalds/Dominos', Indian street food has occupied a secondary place ~~and~~

- Language: To enhance employment prospects in the global economy, students focus on English at the cost of our rich and diverse linguistic culture.

- Family: Adopting western norms has created tensions in the institutions of marriage, kinship and family.
(eg. old age homes are now becoming more popular).

However, this fear of homogenisation is greatly exaggerated as shown by the following

- Indian culture has spread across the western world too eg. (Yoga/Vegetarianism, rise of Buddhism).

- The example of the huge Indian diaspora suggests that a distinct cultural identity

can be easily established in the globalised world.

- Despite globalisation, Indian societal institutions such as caste and joint family have persevered.
- Western Clothing and Food are given an 'Indian touch' which makes them even more popular. (eg. kurta-tshirts and the Mc Aloo Patty!).
- Traditional Indian festivals continue to be as popular as ever. In fact, the President of the USA has been conveying his wishes on Diwali for the past two years!

India has been famous for its capacity to absorb foreign influences and blend them into a composite national culture. Globalisation will only enhance this process.

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VISION IAS.

Q.3 Urbanization and migration have increased the vulnerability of elderly in India. Comment. Also, discuss the measures which should be taken to address their vulnerabilities [200 words].

A Rapid social changes through urbanisation and migration has a deleterious impact on the elderly.

IMPACT OF URBANIZATION

- Decline of the joint family system reduces support mechanisms in old age.
- Busy lives in urban areas and lack of persons of similar age promotes isolation and depression.
- Generation gaps and impersonal attitudes in urban areas enhance their vulnerability.
- Higher cost of living in urban areas causes economic strain.
- Traditional roles of the elderly such as looking after grandchildren are taken over by crèches which promotes isolation.

Social changes → vulnerable
How?
Measures

7

## IMPACT OF MIGRATION

- Collapse of support structures due to migration of children.
- Elderly who migrate are not able to adjust quickly to new areas and face psychological and social tensions.
- To increase income, elderly migrants may be forced to work affecting their health.
- Elderly migrants are cut off from ancestral land, kinship and other communities.
- Poor housing conditions of migrants exacerbate health conditions.

## MEASURES

- The National Policy for Older Persons calls for increasing inter-generational contact.
- Improving access to National Social Assistance Programme.
- Ensuring safety and security through helplines and trained professionals
- 'Productive Ageing' by mainstreaming older persons in the community
- Adequate healthcare provision through

insurance and investment in geriatrics.

- 'Elderly friendly' public conveniences

Thus, adequate safeguards are critically important to address the vulnerability of the elderly. (202)

Q.4 In what ways do gender stereotypes influence the social position of women in Indian society?

A. Stereotypes are a simplified notion or image that members of a society hold towards others persons or objects. Gender stereotypes begin to be developed very early in life and are thus deeply entrenched. They exert a powerful influence on behaviour.

EXAMPLES OF GENDER STEREOTYPES

- Women are seen as secondary members of the family. They eat after the male members, their education and health are neglected.
- Certain jobs are seen 'womanly'. Thus, taking care of children, cooking ~~food~~ and other housework is considered the 'duty' of the women in the household.
- In traditional households, ~~women~~ wives are seen as subservient to their spouses. It

is considered their 'moral obligation' to 'serve' their husbands. This enables men to exert dominance over women and weakens their social position.

- A female child is often perceived as a 'burden'. Families with girls ~~not only~~ consider themselves unlucky and often abuse the girl child. Heinous crimes like female foeticide, infanticide and dowry deaths are promoted by such stereotypes.

- 'Women are often equated with honour of the family and their 'sexual purity' is emphasized upon. This enables social control on the private lives of female citizens. Caste and communal violence are often the causes and products of such notions of 'besmirchment of family honour'.
[eg. Muzzafarnagar riots allegedly started because of the friendship ~~ties~~ of an unmarried woman with a man of different religion]

- Even in corporate companies, misogynistic attitudes lead to exclusion of women from high posts. Other manifestations are sexual harrasment of women at the workplace, ~~different~~ lower remunerations to women etc.

- A woman wearing western attire or walking at night with a male friend is often a victim of eve-teasing and other gender crimes.

Thus, we observe that gender stereotypes greatly harm the social position of women in our society.

(268)
long

Q.5 In post independence India, cities were expected to be a vehicle for social change, but they also became the symbols of contradictions, which had been plaguing the countryside for a long time. Comment.

A. Massive migration has led to a substantial increase in the urban population. Although, cities around the world have catalysed social change, Indian cities have remained stagnant

CONTRADICTION IN CITIES

- Caste : Despite the dilution of caste barriers in the workplace; marriage, residence and kinship have remained confined within the caste system.
- Low social position of women : It was expected that cities would accelerate the upliftment of women by providing employment opportunities. However, traditional mindsets, and misogynistic

attitudes have persisted.

- Economic Inequalities: Cities offer avenues for social mobility through economic upliftment. However, the new opportunities have mostly been cornered by people of the upper castes and the SCs/STs continue to be excluded

- High influence of religion: In western societies, rise of cities has coincided with the decline of the importance of religion in the society. In India, however, the grip of religion on the populace continues to be strong. In fact, it has mutated into virulent communal feelings.

- Importance attached to land: Despite living in the city, most residents retain ancestral land/farms in villages. The ownership of land is still seen as a

symbol of prestige in the city.

- Marriage and Divorce : Despite introduction to western ideas, ~~family~~ institutions of family, marriage and divorce remain relevant.

~~However, we must note that social change, however slow, is manifesting in the~~

Thus, we see that despite an explosive growth in the urban population, social change is yet to become a reality in cities.

(206)

Q.6 What are the factors responsible for high infant mortality rate in India? Discuss its implications for Indian women. Suggest steps that have been taken by the government to address the problem.

A The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in India (44 per 1000 live births) is one of the highest in the world.

REASONS FOR HIGH IMR

- Early Marriage: Low age of the mother decreases chances of survival.
- Improper Family Planning :- Not ensuring enough gap between children further increases IMR
- High Fertility Ratio :- A preference for sons implies that the no. of children born per women in abnormally high in certain areas.
- Economic Backwardness :- Lack of means to

care for young infants especially nutrition and poor living conditions due to extreme poverty lead to infant deaths

- Lack of adequate healthcare :- Poor post natal services, lack of qualified medical health professionals and medical infrastructure and low vaccination rate put upward pressure on IMR.
- Belief in traditional practices :- Certain traditional / social customs and practices actively harm the health of young infants.

IMPLICATIONS FOR INDIAN WOMEN

- High IMR implies that families prefer a larger number of children. This adversely harms the reproductive and general health of women
- Neglect of the girl child :- High IMR and traditional mindsets cause families to focus more on the male progeny.

## STEPS TAKEN BY GOVT

**Nutrition**

- Launch of Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), construction of Anganwadis in all villages and capacity building of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) to provide Early Childhood Care (ECE)

**Health**

- Vaccination camps and focussed schemes such as Mission Indradhanush to increase coverage
- Targeted initiatives through the National Health Mission (such as RMNCH+A)

**IEC**

- Information and Education campaigns regarding family planning.

(232)

Q.7 While disability often exacerbates poverty, it is also true that the poor are more prone to disability. In this context, examine the relationship between disability and poverty.

A. Poverty increases the vulnerability of an individual to disability. On the other hand, disability constricts the economic and social choices available to him and drags him into poverty

DISABILITY ⇒ POVERTY

- Higher health costs :- Increased expenditure on medicines, specialized care and equipment can be a huge economic burden
- Social Exclusion :- The 'disabled' are often shunned by their families and cut off from support mechanisms.
- Reduced Employment Opportunities :- A 'disabled' individual faces discrimination in.

acquiring work

- Inadequate welfare system :- The govt's policies are not effectively targeted and often are of no help to the individual.

POVERTY increases vulnerability to DISABILITY

- Low Expenditure on Health :- Due to lack of access to good healthcare, treatable diseases may be ignored and get converted into physical disability
- Access to only low quality necessities
  Poor people often live dangerously. They are more susceptible to grievous injuries which may cause disabilities
  [eg. blindness due to drinking hooch; electrocution due to poor housing]
- Victims of violence :- The poor are often targeted by violent groups and are even victims of abuse by the police. Examples of disability following violence are common.

- Dangerous employment :- Poor citizens work in unsafe working conditions such as chemical factories. This increases their chances of accidents.

Thus, we observe that poverty and disability form a vicious circle which can trap an individual. State intervention for the disabled is, therefore, absolutely essential.

(212)

Q.8 Welfare schemes have been at the heart of the State's poverty eradication agenda in India since 1970s. However, the 21st century has seen a qualitative shift in the way these welfare programmes have been envisioned and implemented. Illustrate.

A. Since the 6th Plan onwards, the govt's efforts to eradicate poverty have involved 'direct action' programmes. However, their conceptualisation and implementation has changed considerably.

CHANGES IN CONCEPTUALISATION

- Emphasis on Grassroots planning :- Welfare schemes (WS) are now drawn up on the advice of gram sabha and urban local bodies.
- Discarding the 'One Size Fits All' Approach :- Along with top down planning, considerable

flexibility has been granted to regional planners regarding WS. eg. the list of works for MNREGA is decided by the Gram Sabha.

- Involvment of stakeholders :- WS, policies for social empowerment and other plan schemes are conceptualized after rigorous discussions with civil society organisations (CSOs).

- Focus on Quality :- Many schemes such as the National Rural Livelihood Mission incorporate skill training and entrepreneurship development.

CHANGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

- Extensive use of ICT :- Use of electronic cash transfers, management and information systems in MGNREGA and NRHM has helped in reducing leakage.

- Involvement of CSOs :- CSOs are encouraged to participate in the implementation of WSs. This ensures accountability and efficiency.
- Accountability and Grievance Redressal :- Innovative mechanisms such as 'social audit' by the gram sabha and use of Right to Information has increased the legitimacy of schemes.
- Implementation by elected governments :- Rather than employing state bureaucracy for WS implementation, Local Self Governments are now encouraged to implement schemes.

Thus, we observe that WS have not remained static. Rather, using the experience of past decades, they have been modified.

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VISION IAS

Q.9 What is regionalism? Despite persistent regional inequalities, it is increasingly becoming less important in the Indian Scenario. Analyse.

A. Regionalism refers to the collective feelings of residents of a particular region regarding a clash of interests between their economic and social aspirations and those of the entire nation. Regionalism is often associated with inequitable economic opportunities and distinct religious, linguistic or ethnic identities.

DECLINE OF REGIONALISM IN INDIA

- Till the 1980s, India witnessed diverse centrifugal tendencies which aggravated regionalism and secessionism (eg. Mizoram, Nagaland, Maharashtra).
- However, regionalism is on the decline as evidenced by lesser demand for

seperate states (as compared to the 1980s)

REASONS FOR DECLINE

- Increase in migration and urbanisation has somewhat mitigated regional inequalities
- Representation of regional political parties in national governments has satiated some demands.
- Increase in economic mobility after liberalisation and privatisation.
- Increasing focus on 'cooperative federalism' and 'administrative devolution' which counters regionalism.
- Effective state response to violent regional movements.

THREATS REMAIN

- Lack of equitable and inclusive growth will fan regionalism
- Displacement of tribal population due to acquisition may cause resentment

~~and fear~~

- Regionalism in a 'new avatar' through 'sons of the soil politics' and discrimination against migrants (eg. attacks against people from North Eastern states).
- Long continuing terrorist activities in the North East and brutal state response encourages seperatism.
- Illegal migration leading to demographic change is a persistent reason for regional movements (eg 'Bodoland' movement),
- Ineffective implementation of $V^{th}$ and $VI^{th}$ schedule provisions.

Thus, while regional tendencies have undeniably declined, there is an urgent need to address ~~the~~ new challenges.

(219)

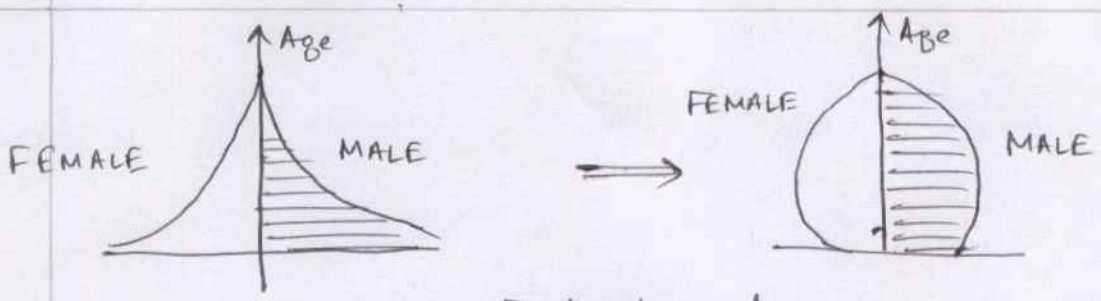
VISION IAS

Q.10 How does economic development influence the demography of a society? Discuss in the context of India.

A Economic development increases the resources and opportunities available to both the individuals and the society as a whole.

EFFECT ON DEMOGRAPHY

- Change in population growth rate :- With increasing development both birth rates and death rates decline. However, the rate of their decline may be different according to the stage of economic development, leading either to an increasing population (eg. Nigeria) or a decreasing one (eg. Japan). [Eg in India, TFR declined to 2.3 in 2011]
- Change in the Age-Sex pyramid :-




Expanding popu $\xrightarrow{\text{Eco Development}}$ Stationary popu.

- Increase in sex ratio :- More economically developed societies do not tend to differentiate between boys and girls on the basis of their economic usefulness.

- Increase in the proportion of the elderly in the population :-

- Urbanisation :- Economic development has invariably led to growth of cities all over the world. In India, nearly 30% of the population lives in cities and contributes 60% of the GDP.

- Higher rates of migration :- Changing

residence often helps in increasing economic mobility in a developing economy. ~~The~~ e.g. high rural-urban migration in India; migration of workers to the Gulf

- Increase in life expectancy :- With growth in literacy (~75% in 2011) and access to primary health, people are living longer.
- ~~Increase~~ Change in the structure of the workforce : With the rise in working age population (15–70 yrs), India is set to reap the rewards of a 'demographic dividend'. (207)

Q.11 Internal migration not only affects the migrant but also the source and destination regions. Discuss. Suggest some measures to tackle the issues related to internal migration.

A Internal migration is usually a result of the combinations of pull factors at destinations and push factors at sources.

EFFECT ON MIGRANT

- Disruption in Economic and social spheres of life.
- Social alienation and maladjustment at the new locations.
- Increased vulnerability to poverty, unemployment and diseases.
- Greater psychological stress on child and elderly migrants.
- Lack of access to shelter, food, clothing and welfare programmes of the state.

EFFECT ON SOURCE

- Change in composition of population and the workforce (affecting productivity) eg. feminization of the work force.
- Collapse of support systems due to migration of 'able-bodied' and working men;
- Separated families ~~tend to~~ have an impact on optimum mental education of children.

EFFECT ON DESTINATION

- Increased pressure on economic and community services such as water, shelter, roads.
- Increased unemployed population may lead to a spurt in antisocial activities and crime.
- Growth of slums which are especially vulnerable to disease outbreaks.
- Increased social tension between the migrants and residents eg. (Mumbai/Bangalore attacks)
- Presence of highly skilled labour at low rates improving the productivity of

the destination.

MEASURES TO TACKLE MIGRATION

- Allowing flexibility and easy transfer amongst beneficiaries in welfare programmes.
- Providing employment opportunities at the source (eg. through an expanded/refurbished MGNREGA)
- Counselling of migrants and families.
- Active ~~emp~~ involvement of employment exchanges to provide job security to migrants
- Proper regulation and inspection to ensure good living conditions.
- Increasing access to credit and promoting entrepreneurship at source.

(218)

Q.12 Social determinants of malnutrition in India necessitate a multi-pronged approach to tackle the problem. Comment.

A. Malnutrition, in India, is not a simple problem of lack of access to food. It is a complex problem having roots in historical social divisions.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF MALNUTRITION

- Caste: It is often the vulnerable sections such as SCs/STs who face shortage of food. Discrimination in both the quality and quantity provided enhances malnutrition.

- Class: Economic inequalities lead to food scarcity. This is exacerbated by peasant indebtedness and elitism by service providers.

- Gender: Due to the patriarchal attitudes of the citizenry, women are much more malnourished than men. Even amongst siblings, the priorities of the male are addressed first.

- Access to Land :- Overpopulation, indebtedness, small landholdings and poorly implemented land reforms have reduced the average farm size to below subsistence levels.

- Traditional Practices :- A reluctance to use toilets along with unequal access to them perpetuates open defecation. Lack of sanitation leads to health problems which affects nutrition.

NEED FOR A SYNERGETIC APPROACH

- It is, therefore, clear that a simple focus on increasing foodgrain

provision will not solve the problems.
We should focus on:—

→ An integrated solution which ~~pro~~ encompasses sanitation, safe drinking water and food availability

→ Increasing yield and productivity of small and marginal farmers.

→ Sensitization of field officials regarding social divisions.

→ Improving access to credit, skill development and opportunities for wage employment.

→ Special emphasis on SC/ST/Women.

→ Reducing leakages in PDS.

(209)

Q.13 While democratic institutions in India have led to changes in the caste structure, these changes have at best led to only partial redistributive outcomes for the backward castes. Discuss.

A. Democratic institutions have significantly altered the caste structure in the following ways:-

(i) Reservation of seats at all tiers has increased representation of SCs/STs in elected institutions.

(ii) Caste mobilisation for electoral gains has instilled confidence in formerly 'low castes'.

(iii) Affirmative action programmes designed and implemented in a democratic fashion have mitigated the harms of the caste system.

However, one can argue

that these changes have not substantially altered the social landscape:

EVIDENCES FOR 'PARTIAL SUCCESS'

- Low representation in government jobs:-

Despite affirmative action policies, the percentage of SCs/STs in government jobs is much lower than their percentage in the population. This difference is accentuated at the upper echelons.

- Poverty Statistics :- The percentage (%) of SCs/STs/OBCs below the ~~[illegible]~~ Tendulkar poverty line are higher than those in general category. Thus, while the average poverty ratio is 22%, the figures for SCs and STs are 30% and 43%.

- Inequitable Access to education as represented by the preponderance of STs is Out of School Children

• <u>Social Exclusion</u> :- While economic mobility has increased somewhat, fissures along caste lines remain an indelible part of our society. (eg. endogamy).

Thus, the changes in caste structures have only had partial redistributive outcomes and a fresh approach is the need of the hour.

(192)

Q.14 Rapid urban growth in the context of scarce socio-economic and legal support to the poor is an inevitable recipe for mass production of slums. Discuss in the context of India.

A. India's urban population has been increasing exponentially. It already accounts for 30% of the entire population and is expected to rise to 40% by 2040. Most of the internal migrants belong to lower socio-economic groups who move to cities for economic resources.

CONDITION OF SUPPORT SYSTEMS

- Lack of adequate affordable housing and shelter for migrants causes an increase in temporary housing. This worsens the service delivery in urban areas and

the temporary houses turn into slums.

- Lack of employment opportunities for migrants at both the source and destination aggravates living conditions.
- No portability of welfare schemes :- Migrants are often not targeted by govt welfare schemes and thus get overburdened by economic challenges
- Legal support mechanisms like social security numbers are deficient in India. Similar portability for provident fund for labourers also does not exist. This increases challenges for the migrants.
- Absence of safeguards from exploitation by employers and govt machinery (police) due to regulatory lacunae further promotes slums.

Thus, the need of the hour is

→ Massive expansion in delivery of basic services.

→ Fighting migrant poverty by skill development

→ Addressing the gaps in the legal and regulatory regime. (178)

Q.15 Discuss the achievments and failures of affirmative action in India. How can the existing policy on affirmative action be made more effective in the current scenario.

A. Affirmative Action policies in India have included

(i) Reservation in elections.

(ii) Reservation in public employment

(iii) Specially designed welfare schemes for targeted amelioration.

(iv) Legal protection such as Protection of Civil Rights Act, Prohibition of Untouchability etc.

ACHIEVMENTS

- Robust representation of the marginalised in democratic institutions.
- Increasing involvement of SCs/STs and OBCs in the bureaucracy.
- Rapidly decreasing poverty rates among the SC/ST population.

- Integration of the tribal population with the rest of the citizenry
- Massive decrease in incidence of untouchability practices
- Emergence of community leaders to champion the cause of SCs/STs.
- Knowledge about the poor state of the vulnerable groups among the populace.

FAILURES

- Despite amelioration, the society remains divided on caste lines and incidences of caste related violence still occur.
- Politicization of 'caste issues' for electoral gains has reduced the focus on redistributive justice
- The benefits of affirmative action are being cornered by the well-off 'creamy layer' within the groups.
- Increasingly polarised opinion regarding reservation within the country.
- Poverty statistics for SCs/STs still below the national average.

## HOW TO MAKE POLICY MORE EFFECTIVE

- Recommendations regarding reservation to be made by a bipartisan, autonomous council.
- Statutory and constitutional bodies like NCBC, NCSC and NCST to be given more power to deal with caste related crimes.
- Focus on skill development, access to credit, and capacity development.
- Extending the provisions of exclusion of 'creamy layer to SCs and STs'.
- Increasing literacy levels among SCs/STs
- Involving voluntary organisations and local bodies in implementation of welfare schemes. (228)

Q.16 Discuss the problems faced by the workers in the informal sector in India. What steps have been taken by the government to improve the condition of workers in the informal sector?

A. The majority of the workers in India's labour force belong in the unorganized or informal sector (~90%). This highly lopsided labour composition negatively affects the twin goals of enhancing labour productivity and social protection of labourers.

PROBLEMS

- Lack of social safeguards :- Most of the 'pro-labour' legislations of the government do not cover unorganized sector employees. Hence, they are denied benefits such as

minimum wages, maternity leave, paid leave, security of tenure etc.

- Low wages :- Due to the temporary nature of their work and lack of skills, they are paid abysmally low wages.
- Lack of job security and absence of unions :- Easy retrenchment is a norm in the informal sector. The unions also choose to focus on the skilled or organized sector employees.
- Increasing contractualization and temporary workers :- To reduce costs, many employers have been turning towards contract workers who are even less paid and don't have access to basic necessities.
- Unsafe workplaces :- Informal workers, especially in the manufacturing sector work in dangerous environments without physical or legal safeguards.

STEPS TAKEN

- Providing the benefits of the organized sector by enacting legislations such as
  - → Equal Remuneration Act
  - → Maternity Benefit Act
  - → Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act.
- Proper regulation to ensure that labour health and industrial safety are being paid attention.
- Integrating education, health and skill development policies for the informal sector to ensure holistic development.
- Several schemes such as.
  - → Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana.
  - → Smart Card for unorganized sector.
  - → 'Skill India'

However, steps which check the 'informalisation of the workforce' need to be taken.

(234)

Q.17 "Linguistic, regional and tribal identity rather than religion has provided the most important basis for the formation of ethno-national identities in India." Explain.

A. India is an unusually diverse nation with distinct geographical regions, linguistic communities ~~and~~, tribal groups and multitude of religions. Despite the presence of many religions, the formation of ~~indra~~ sub-national identities has not been influence by it.

• Long process of Assimilation :- Over the course of our history, practitioners of different religions have settled in the same area and forged a common culture including a common language.

[ Telangana has a substantial Muslim population but the demand for a

separate state centred on regional identities)

- Inequalities within the same religion :-
Followers of a religion are not a composite group. In fact, followers of different religion in the same socio-economic strata and geographical location may have much more affinity than followers of the same religion in disparate circumstances.

- Strong influence of local traditions :-
Local customs and traditions have influenced the way of life of the people for a long time.
[eg. the demand for Uttaranchal or Bhattisgarh can be seen in this context]

- Tribe as an identity :- Tribal identities within the nation are much stronger than religious identities eg. in the North East, despite several tribes

following similar religious traditions, a distinct tribal identity exists.

However, with continuing communal polarisation and intolerance over the last century, religious identities are slow entering the Indian society. This is especially evident in the aftermath of communal clashes. (193)

VISION IAS

Q. 18 Explain the phenomenon of demographic dividend in the context of India. Do you think that our country has the capacity to take advantage of it?

A As India grows economically, birth rates fall gradually while death rates fall faster. This will ensure that over the next 3/4 decades, the proportion of working people (15-59 years) in the total population will be high. This phenomena is demographic dividend. It is evidenced by the falling dependency ratio of India (proportion of non-working popn to the working popn).

Moreover, all the advanced countries of Europe, ~~Asia~~ Japan and USA have an ageing population and China's.

one child policy has negated its ~~one~~ demographic dividend estimates, India's working age population will be a competitive advantage.

The Benefits will be:-

(i) Increased Labour supply

(ii) Increase in savings and mobilisation of capital

(iii) Human Capital.

(iv) Increase in aggregate demand.

However, a larger workforce translates into a more prosperous ~~and productive~~ workforce if there are productive jobs.

LIMITATIONS

- Most of the workforce is unskilled. Thus, we need to pursue skill development.
- Increase Access to quality education and health is necessary for reaping the advantages of demographic dividend. Thus, current state of low quality

services are a concern.

- Rising inequality will also be a barrier to economic growth. Inclusive development must then, be ensured.

I believe that India has the capacity to use the dividend to our advantage given :-

(i) Better livelihood opportunities
(ii) Quality improvement by education, health and skill development.

(194)

VISION IAS

Q.19 In recent times, there has been a clamour for implementing Article 44 of the Constitution. To what extent is such a demand justified, given the socio-cultural diversity of India.

A. Article 44 directs the State to ensure that a uniform civil code, applicable to all citizens is introduced in India. Despite this provision, a uniform civil code does not exist as of yet.

ARGUMENTS FOR

- Judicial Direction :- Even the Supreme Court has repeatedly reminded the State of its responsibility.
- Negate Exploitative Rules :- The civic codes of certain religions have exploitative and discriminatory provisions. This is evident in the lack of equal status to women in Muslim Personal Law. A uniform civil

code will ensure protection to the aggrieved.

- Civil Code is distinct from religious practices. India is a secular country and the government cannot interfere in religious organisation. However, civil codes are not an "essential element" of religion and need to be regulated.
- Remove disparities :- A non-uniform civil conduct ~~can~~ increases differences between persons of different religions. It can also accentuate economic and social inequality.
- Aid in National Cohesion :- A uniform civil code (UCC) will bring people together.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST

- Interference by the govt can enhance the mistrust and fear psychosis by govt which may be harmful for the country.

- Existence of Special Marriages Act :-
Instead of introducing a new compulsory civil code, the government can introduce a voluntary CC which doesn't distinguish on religion.

- Tribal Identities :- Social relationships, especially among tribals are quite different from that of the rest of the population and need to be safeguarded.

* A uniform civil code which safeguards the rights of women and children while avoiding distinguishing on the basis of religion is necessary.

(215)

Q.20 "The model of economic development adopted in India which is based on mega projects, has considerable social costs, because its burden is borne mainly by the marginalised sections". Analyse.

A. For a long time after Independence, policymakers stressed on mega projects such as large multipurpose river valley projects and integrated steel plants. They hoped that the benefits would 'trickle down' to the poorer sections.

SOCIAL COSTS

- Displacement of Residents :- Due to the mega projects (MPs), local population gets displaced and loses economic and social links. Loss of livelihoods affects the poor and marginalised in a ~~much~~ more

severe manner

- Land Alienation:- Acquisition of land under the 1894 Act caused deprivation of the largest physical asset of most poor families. Moreover, adequate compensation was not often provided. This is more apparent in the case of tribals.
- Disruption of Social Cohesion:- Mega projects have a huge impact on society and the interrelationships between people. Women, children and the elderly are not able to reestablish these relationships in new environment.
- Loss of environmental assets:- Submergence of forests by reservoirs or open pit mining depletes environmental resources which adds to the social burden. eg. Tribals dependent on minor forest produce lose out.
- Lack of Benefits:- Often the benefits and advantages of the MPs don't accrue to the indigenous population eg. a large UMPP at Mundra may not supply electricity

to a SC dominated village nearby. This adds to the resentment.

These additional social costs, borne especially by the marginalised, push them into extreme poverty and hunger and may even attract them towards Left Wing Extremism. A course correction, which involves community involvement and development in an inclusive and sustainable manner is essential.

(225)

# VISION IAS

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Module no 226

## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 627)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Name of Candidate | PRATHAMESH KUMAR | | |
| Medium Hindi/Eng. | ENG | Registration Number | 13402 |
| Center | DELHI | Date | 3/11/2015 |

### INDEX TABLE

| Q. No. | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 12.5 | |
| 2 | 12.5 | |
| 3 | 12.5 | |
| 4 | 12.5 | |
| 5 | 12.5 | |
| 6 | 12.5 | |
| 7 | 12.5 | |
| 8 | 12.5 | |
| 9 | 12.5 | |
| 10 | 12.5 | |
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| 12 | 12.5 | |
| 13 | 12.5 | |
| 14 | 12.5 | |
| 15 | 12.5 | |
| 16 | 12.5 | |
| 17 | 12.5 | |
| 18 | 12.5 | |
| 19 | 12.5 | |
| 20 | 12.5 | |

**Total Marks Obtained:**

**Remarks:**

**Signature of Examiner**

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in HINDI and ENGLISH.
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं तथा हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

# EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. **Alignment Competence**
2. **Context Competence**
3. **Content Competence**
4. **Language Competence**
5. **Introduction Competence**
6. **Structure - Presentation Competence**
7. **Conclusion Competence**

**Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

**All the Best**

This document is personalised for Prathamesh Kumar(pkprantha@gmail.com)

VISION IAS

Q.1 The National Cyber Security Policy (NCSP-2013) presented an opportunity to understand existing legal limitations before devising a future framework. In this context, enumerate the objectives and strategies of NCSP. Also, discuss the shortcomings and limitations that it has been suffering from

A The National Cyber Security Policy aims at :-

(i) Providing comprehensive protection to India's critical information infrastructure.

(ii) Developing indigenous security technologies and a large capable workforce which can use them

(iii) Inculcating a culture of cyber security and prevention of privacy invasions.

(iv) Encouraging all organisations to put information security policies in place

(v) prevent cyber terror attacks on Indian assets -

The strategies adopted:-

- Operation of a 24x7 National Critical Information Infra. Protection Centre.
- Mandating the creation of a Cyber Security officer in each organisation.
- Cert-In has been expanded to respond swiftly to all cyber attacks.
- Comprehensive cyber security awareness programmes have been launched.
- Impetus is to be provided to electronics manufacturing in India.

LIMITATIONS

- No change in the regulatory structure:- Cyber Security, in India is still governed by the Information Technology Act, 2000 which was primarily aimed at enhancing e-commerce in the country. A seperate act detailing comprehensive definitions of cyber security and threats is necessary.

- Issues related to cloud computing, cyber forensics have not been acknowledged.
- More clarity needed on government surveillance vis-à-vis the privacy rights of citizen, given the new projects such as NETRA and CMS.
- Cyber Security is intimately connected with Internet Governance at the global level, an issue which the policy doesn't address.

(186)

Q-2 Transnational security threats posed by non-state actors in the IOR have considerably risen in recent years. What are the threats and challenges posed by them? Explain the need for cooperation between the states and associated maritime agencies.

A. The ~~Indian~~ IOR is critically important for world trade: Around 40% of merchandise and energy products flows through it

THREATS IN THE IOR

- Piracy :- Increasing activities of Somali pirates despite sustained naval operations along with ethnic clashes in Eritrea threaten naval shipping lines. Also in the Strait of Malacca.
- Terrorism :- Attacks on naval bases in Pakistan have raised the fear that extremists may commandeer ships and

attack vital coastal installations.

- Displaced Migrants :- such as the Rohingyas from Myanmar are potential candidates for terrorists and pirates.

- Smuggling :- Drugs, Guns and fake currencies are smuggled through new routes in the sea by Organized crime groups. They are heavily armed

- Civil War in the Middle East :- Rebels in Yemen pose a significant threat to the oil supplies from the region.

## NEED FOR COOPERATION

- Wide Area of Operation :- Most transnational criminals operate out of different countries and cross international boundaries and thus cannot be prosecuted by a single country

- Wide capacities of IOR littoral states

(eg. while India is a nuclear power, Seychelles has a very small navy) means that cooperation is essential.

- Intertwined goals :- Strategic interests of the littoral states regarding protecting shipping lines and countering terror are aligned.

- Economic necessity :- Many countries of IOR are heavily dependent on imports (India) and exports (Iran) of oil and gas and thus threats to these are common.

Thus, all states in the region should cooperate in the following fora :-

(i) Indian Ocean Rim Association.

(ii) Indian Ocean Naval Symposium.

(225)

Q.3 While paramilitary forces are often successful in their fight against terrorists, insurgents and Naxalites, it is the fight for dignity and recognition that has left them depressed and demoralised. Analyse the reasons for demoralisation of paramilitary forces in India? What steps have been taken by the government in order to address the issue.

A: India's paramilitary forces such as the CRPF and BSF are among the world's largest police forces engaged in countering insurgency in hostile terrains. The demoralisation of the force is a pressing concern.

REASONS FOR DEMORALISATION

- Poor remuneration and monetary compensation is the most potent factor in lowering morale.
- Improper accomodation and poor conditions

of food/clothing in hostile areas (eg. lack of electricity in LWE areas, improper bunkers along the International Border in Jammu)

- Monetary rewards and gallantary awards are fewer and less prestigious as compared to the armed forces.
- Poorly planned operations and intelligence failures and inexperienced officers lead to high casualties which is detrimental.
- While most NCOs and junior rank officers are directly recruited, officers of the senior ranks are deputed from the IPS. This increases frustration.

STEPS TAKEN

- Increasing the senior ranks reserved for direct recruits.
- Capacity building of regional bases so that the needs of the force can be handled.
- Infrastructure construction in LWE and.

border areas (elec supply, water, grid)

- Use of technology (drones) and clear Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to minimise casualties.
- Taking steps to ensure gallantary awards are received by paramilitary personnel too.
- Counselling and mental training for demoralised personnel; organising special health camps.

(187)

Q.4 Cyber Space, like Outer Space is unbounded and equally accessible to all. In this context, evaluate the merits and demerits of having a body like the United Nations to govern it. Also, comment on the role that India has played so far in reforming Internet governance structures.

A. Cyber space and information, by its very nature does not confine itself to national boundaries. Its free flowing nature, difficulty in restricting it and transnational stakeholders are unique characteristics.

MERITS OF INTERNATIONAL INTERNET GOVERNANCE (IIG)

- Equal say to all countries in the governance of internet will be ensured. Currently, the US ~~which~~ plays a dominant role in internet governance (through ICANN)
- Accountability of MNCs :- Internet giants

such as Google or Apple are transnational companies with a global base of operations. This necessitates international collective oversight mechanism.

- Reducing digital divide will be a priority for an international organisation which will usher economic/social transformations.
- Restriction on privacy violations and snooping by Big Data companies and international spying agencies.

DEMERITS OF IIG

- Challenge to the free, open and democratic nature of the internet in the form of global cumbersome regulations.

[eg. right to forget as mandated by EU]

- An international body such as UN does not involve non governmental stakeholders such as MNCs, civil society and users.
- Critical Information Infra of individual nations may be subject to international oversight violating sovereign claims on the net.

## ROLE OF INDIA IN IG

- Favouring an intergovernmental model of IG at international organisation.
- Participating in global conferences such as NETMUNDIAL and presenting radical approaches to IG which enjoy tremendous international support.
- Calling for checks on government surveillance and privacy violations
- Engaging with civil society and MNCs to ensure the twin goals of 'Digital India' and 'Inclusive Internet Governance'.

(224)

Q.5 NATGRID has been touted as an Idea, which would help a great deal in combating terrorism emerging out of Indian soil. In this context, examine how NATGRID would strengthen India's security architecture.

A. NATGRID has been conceived as an agency which:—

(i) Links the databases of several depts and ministries of GoI to provide a comprehensive information system.

(ii) Provide data such as credit card transactions, rail travel itineraries etc to 11 central agencies (eg RAW / IB etc)

(iii) Generates intelligence patterns to aid counter-terror ops (CT).

NEED / IMP OF NATGRID

- Centralized database will enable real time sharing of actionable intelligence.

- Increase cooperation between security agencies and lead to a more focussed response against terror.
- Provide CBDT, CBEC with fiduciary information to curb black money which ultimately funds terror.
- Such a system already exists in many countries [eg. FBI central database] and has produced excellent results.
- Easier prosecution resulting from detailed records in the database.
- Patterns of intelligence can even target sleeper cells.

HOWEVER, CONCERNS REMAIN

- A database will not necessarily increase cooperation and intelligence sharing. Reforming organisational culture and proper capacity building is necessary.
- NATGRID data will need to be made secure digitally.

- It must be ensured that NATGRID data is not used for government surveillance programmes and only for tackling terror.

Thus, despite a few shortcomings, NATGRID will be a valuable weapon in India's CT arsenal.

(183)

Q.6 Any counter-terrorism strategy can succeed only if sources of terrorist funding are blocked by efficient financial regulation. In light of this statement, discuss the need for an efficient legal framework to combat terror financing in India and steps taken by the government in this regard.

A. Terrorism is fuelled primarily by fundamentalist ideology. However, to actually carry out extremist violence, copious amounts of capital is required.

SOURCES OF TERROR FUNDING

- Black money which is rerouted from abroad into terror activities.
- Proceeds from organised crime.
- Transnational crime profits (Fake Indian Currency Notes {FICN}, drug/weapons smuggling)
- Hawala transactions and funding from external state and non-state actors.

## NEED FOR A LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Curbing the evil of blackmoney necessary through a strong legislation which hits at the sources (punishes overinvoicing, real estate transactions)
- Terror funding needs to be equated to 'terror activities' by expanding its legal definition.
- Enable action against financial institutions which route terror funds.
- Multiplicity of sources of terror funds implies a comprehensive legislation is needed.
- Reforms in taxation structures to curb black money generation.

## STEPS TAKEN

- 'Financing terrorist activities' has been included as a crime in the National Security Act.
- Increased Border management to curb FICN/drug/weapon smuggling.
- Cooperation with international and foreign agencies (eg. FBI/Interpol]

- Heavy penalties on hawala transactions.
- Rationalising tax structure to stop black money from entering the economy.
- Creation of the Enforcement Directorate and PMLA Act to counter Money Laundering.

SUGGESTIONS

- Moving towards a cashless economy.
- TAX reforms and focussing on compliance.
-

(193)

Q.7 It has been argued that rather than curbing militancy, AFSPA has further fuelled it. Discuss. Why is AFSPA still in operation in some states despite the growing demand to repeal it?

A. AFSPA empowers the Central Govt to declare a particular region or an entire State as a 'disturbed area' following which special protections are conferred on the army/paramilitary personnel operating there.

THEY INCLUDE

- 'fire' upon unarmed people on mere suspicion.
- no inquiry (except internal) into the action taken by the armed forces

CRITICISM OF AFSPA

- Blanket protections encourage human rights violations making the local population hostile.
- 'Cycles of vicious violence' are encouraged

which exacerbates conflict

- Indefinite use and lack of accountability have become stumbling blocks for peace (esp. in JK and Manipur)

- CounterTerror measures shouldn't be focused solely on a 'security centric' response which AFSPA enforces.

HOWEVER

- Armed forces operate in hostile environments and need some protection for operational flexibility.

THUS, need to reform AFSPA:-

- Suitable amendments to remove 'fire upon' clause and define 'disturbed area', 'dangerous condition'.

- Involvement of local governments and civilian administration by forming joint committees at district level.

- Time bound investigations and trial.

-

## WHY AFSPA STILL IN OPERATION

- States lack capable police forces to counter militancy which necessitates central help.
- Inefficient development strategies have not countered the roots of extremism (as Tripura has done).
- Vicious militant movements are still operations (eg. NDFB-Khaplang etc)
- Trans-state operations needed for flushing out terror groups.

Q.8 ~~Biote~~ What is 'Bioterrorism'? Why is it more perilous than acts of conventional terrorism? Is India prepared to deal with Bioterrorism? Examine.

A. 'Bioterrorism' refers to the use of biological weapons to carry out terror-related activities. Examples may include using microbes to cause disease outbreaks, release of biological agents to cause economic and environmental disasters.

BIOTERRORISM IS MORE HARMFUL BECAUSE

- Significantly more difficult to prevent attacks of ~~Bio~~ conventional terror.
- 'Germ Warfare' and other 'bio-attacks' may result in large casualties in a small time.
- Effects of bio-terror may be passed to the next generation.
- Biological agents can spread very easily over a large area through air/water.

- Biological agents may be synthesised relatively easily in laboratories
- Disruptive effect on economy

INDIA'S PREPARATION

- Biowarfare and bioterror-related response guidelines have been evolved by the NDMA.
- The NSG is prepared to deal with bioterror attacks.
- Presence of a large biotechnology industry and related manpower will help us in a contingency.

HOWEVER

- A ~~[illegible]~~ distressed public health care system will not be able to cope with 'Bioterror' casualties/injuries.
- Absence of adequate scientific infrastructure will diminish chances of stopping the attack.
- Poor capacity of local police forces (especially urban) to deal with such eventualities
- Lack of a biosafety regulator increases our susceptibility to such attacks.

* Thus, there is a need to significantly ramp up our security and scientific capabilities. to deal with this menace -

Q.9 The National Investigation Agency, created to act as the nodal agency for counter-terrorism, has been facing numerous challenges in its effective functioning. Discuss.

A. ~~Post~~ After the 2008 Mumbai attacks, the National Investigation Agency was set up as an independent statutory agency to probe into terror-related incidents.

CHALLENGES FACED BY NIA

- State police forces and government are often reluctant to hand over the investigations to the NIA.
- Shortage of trained forensic personnel impedes quicker investigations
- Being a central agency, it comprises of officers on deputation and is extremely short on both officers and personnel.
- Recently, allegations regarding its independence

in the ~~M~~ investigation of the Malegaon terror attacks had been raised by former ~~attacks~~ Prosecutor.

- NIA often focuses solely on terror attacks and violent incidents and doesn't probe related crimes such as FICN smuggling, drug operations etc.
- Most terror incidents are trans-national character and NIA is limited by jurisdiction.
- Lack of cooperation and intelligence sharing, especially by the local police

* SUCCESSES

- The NIA has successfully investigated various incidents like the 26/11 attacks.

SUGGESTIONS

- Amendment of Act to enhance powers.
- Cooperation with State governments. (146)

Q.10 The formation of the United Liberation Front of Western South East Asia (ULFW) poses a serious threat to the north-east region. In this context, discuss the implications of coming together of various insurgent groups on the security of north-east region. What strategies should be adopted to counter this threat.

A. The ~~United Liberation~~ ULFW is an umbrella group of several insurgent organisations operating in NE India, Myanmar, Bhutan and Bangladesh. They include. NDFB - Songbijit, ULFA, NSCN-Khaplang etc.

IMPLICATIONS

- increased cooperation between insurgents will hamper counter-terror operations.
- Increased violence and attacks on ~~terror~~ security forces

- ability of the United Front to coordinate attacks across the North-East and take shelter in each others' camps (even across Indian borders).
- disruption to developmental activities such as construction of railways

STRATEGIES

- Political will needed to combat this strong threat; rejection of terrorists by politicians.
- Strong interagency cooperation, capacity building of armed forces, state police forces and state MACs.
- International cooperation on security with Myanmar (eg. 'hot pursuits'.
- Increased vigour in developmental and welfare activities in the north east.
- Reforms in governance structure and improving citizen friendly governance -
- Using local tribal structures to delegitimise insurgents.
- Upgradation of border infrastructure.

Q.11 Often, counter(terrorist financing) efforts are directed towards disrupting the operations of terrorist organisations and their support structures. In this regard, comment on the challenges faced by investigating agencies in identifying the links between terrorist organisations and their financier.

A. Terrorism and its violent activities are sustained across the globe by not only ideology and fundamentalism but by heavy monetary funding also.

CHALLENGES FACED TO IDENTIFY LINKS

- Terrorists increasing use laundered 'clean money' which passes easily through formal channels.
- Varied sources of funding such as NGOs, religious groups, hawala transactions

which increases the enormity of tracking fund flow.

- Use of state-sponsored funds especially by Middle Eastern countries and Pakistan makes tracking more difficult.
- Use of Information Technology and internet banking enables terrorist organisations to route funds quickly through multiple channels.
- Obscure banking policies and privacy laws of many countries inadvertently shield terror organisations (e.g. Swiss Banks)

SUGGESTIONS

- A comprehensive legal ~~and~~ international response to counter terror.
- Giving more powers to the Financial Action Task Force.
- Mutual information sharing on black money as per the new OECD protocols.
- Blacklisting international organisations who encourage such flows. (137)

Q.12 Although insurgency groups are present in both Kashmir and North East, their nature and model of sustenance are entirely different. Analyse. Also, compare the linkages between organised crime and terrorism in both these areas.

A. While Kashmir has seen insurgent activity by groups such as LeT, JeM etc since the late 80s, the North East has experienced different militant movements in different states. (eg. NSCN in Nagaland, ULFA in Assam, KLO in Manipur).

DIFFERENCES

| | Kashmir | NE |
|---|---|---|
| Origin | Politico-religious factors (independence of kashmir, religious differences) | Tribal consciousness and perceptions of alienation from mainland. (eg. backwardness in Assam, hills vs plains in Manipur) |
| AIM | Spread terror among the populace while dining for secession | Secession or a seperate state. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| MODE OF OPERATION | Attacks on convoys, bomb blasts, firefights | guerilla-warfare, attacks on troops. |
| OUTSIDE HELP | Heavy influence of Pakistan and ISI. | Minimal support from other countries. In fact, Myanmar/Bhutan cooperate in counter-terror ops |
| MODE OF SUSTENANCE | Financing by external state and non-state actors (eg Hawalas) | Financing through extortion, kidnapping, drug/gun smuggling |

LINKAGES B/W OC AND TERROR.

| KASHMIR | NE |
|---|---|
| OC is supplementary to terror operations. | OC is critical to the viability of terror groups. They derive most of their income through OC activities |
| Parallel Govt does not exist. Governance and security is stronger | Drug smuggling from Golden Triangle – Myanmar/Laos/Cambodia<br>Parallel Govt – kidnapping, extortion |
| Financed by ISI, Pak through illegal drug trade of FATA, Baluchistan. | Linkages with transnational organized crime groups of Indo-China and SE Asia |

Q.13 In the context of increasing need for integration of defence forces, there is a growing need for appointment of a single chief for the three arms of defence services. In light of the above statement, examine the desirability of such an appointment as recommended by various committees.

A. After Independence, many committees such as the Kargil War Review Committee and the Naresh Chandra Committee have consistently advocated the creation of a single post of the 'Chief of Defence Staff' (CDS) with a permanent tenure at opposed to the current practice of the senior most service chief serving as CDS.

NEED FOR CDS

- Current security scenarios require an

integrated response. In fact, there are hardly any wars where only one wing of the military is involved.

- Varied geographical borders with neighbours (eg. we share ocean boundaries, land borders and airspace borders with Pak)
- Example of Andaman and Nicobar where a single commander system for the tri-services has performed well.
- Non-security responses such as evacuation efforts and disaster relief require coordination (eg. Yemen evacuation and Uttarakhand floods)
- The concerns of the Navy and the Airforce are often neglected in front of the numerically larger Army.
- CDS, acting as a single point of contact b/w military and civilian govt will increase operational autonomy

ARGUMENTS AGAINST

- Reduced civilian control over the military. This is wrong in view of the existing accountability structures.
- CDS is only reqd for countries who want to have a global strategic presence. This is wrong as a majority of nations have a CDS.

Thus, in my view, the permanent post of a CDS should be instituted as soon as possible in the view of the recommendations by various committees.

Q.14 A multi-pronged conflict management and resolution strategy is necessary to deal with left wing extremism in India. In this context, examine the effectiveness of the surrender cum rehabilitation scheme for left-wing extremists.

A. Left Wing Extremism (LWE) is an outcome of development and governance deficit, economic stagnation and tribal alienation. Thus an approach which integrates security operations with development and rehabilitation efforts is essential.

SURRENDER SCHEME

The scheme aims to:-

(i) discourage tribals and locals from joining LWE

(ii) weaning away LWE cadres through monetary incentives

(iii) raising the status of surrendered cadres to prove to others that LWE is not

the correct alternative.

The surrendered cadres are provided with an immediate grant, skill development courses and monthly financial assistance.

## ADVANTAGES OF THE SCHEME

- Attractive monetary compensation attracts the disillusioned cadres and weakens the movement.
- The positive role of the State in development is highlighted
- Involvement of security forces in the rehabilitation scheme ensures that fears of victimisation are removed
- Increased surrenders underline that a 'security-led' strategy alone is insufficient.

## WEAKNESSES OF THE SCHEME

- Delays in monetary compensation will impede effective implementation.
- Most of the surrendered cadres belong to the lower level ~~and~~
- The scheme does not seek to counter the

extremist ideology of the movement.

Such surrender schemes, if implemented effectively have an immense potential to deter extremism (eg. Punjab in late 80s).

Q.15 While social media is being used increasingly to instigate communal riots and create tensions, any effective strategy to check its misuse must balance security concerns and individual rights. Discuss in the context of recent developments in India.

A. Social Media has become a potent tool in the hands of malafide elements to spread misinformation, and polarise communal situations.

MALAFIDE USE

- Distribution of offensive videos, pictures, jokes.
- Wrong information designed to portray a community in a bad light (eg. portraying dog carcass as cow's)
- Rumour mongering (eg. Muzzaferabad riots, attacks on people from NE in Bangalore)

CURRENT STRATEGY

- Use of provisions of IT Act to ask service providers to take down offensive messages.

- Disabling mobile internet (eg. Gujarat, Jammu Kashmir)
- Preempting rumour mongering through sustained e-surveillance.

CRITICISM

- As the SC observed in Shreya Singhal vs UoI, while striking down Art 66A of IT Act, the laws regarding social media have been misused. Opinions and criticisms are treated as offensive.
- However, reasonable restrictions on free speech are required to ensure that communal situations are peacefully resolved.

SUGGESTIONS

- A new law, specifically regarding social media, with proper definitions and careful wording be adopted.
- Cooperating with social media service providers to enable better reporting/flagging mechanisms [like 'spam' in E-mail]
- Dedicated PR departments using social media to counter rumours and updating official actions.

Thus, social media has to be regulate wisely, especially in a multi-religious and multi-ethnic country like ours.

Q.16 In light of the current cross-border insurgency, should the management of borders be entrusted to the Ministry of Defence? Critically discuss the border management in India and suggest measures for better management of the frontiers.

A. Border management does not entail a purely security driven perspective. Instead, it is a holistic endeavour encompassing:-

(i) Creating infrastructure along the border

(ii) Confidence Building Measures (CBM) in the population residing in border areas

(iii) fighting smuggling and FICN operations

(iv) Allowing cross-border trade and people-to-people contact.

Combating insurgents should be the prerogative of the paramilitary forces such as the BSF and CRPF and not the armed forces. However, cross-border operations and maritime

insurgency should be handled by the army and the navy respectively.

Hence, BM should remain with MHA.

POSITIVES OF BORDER MANAGEMENT

- Presence of well-equipped security force and appropriate security responses.
- Creation of border infra like electrified fence and bunkers.
-

NEGATIVES OF BM

- Basic infra such as good quality roads, 24x7 power and clean water lacking in border areas.
- Presence of AFSPA in many border areas acts as friction between civilian and armed forces.
- Overland cross-border trade is negligible.
- Smuggling is rampant especially in the North-East / Myanmar border.
- Critical security infra like fence not ready in India-Bangladesh border.
- Deployment of Assam Rifles and not the BSF in the North East.

SUGGESTIONS

- A more conciliatory approach with the civilian administration and encouraging CBMs
- Urgent expansion of infra in border areas (especially in North East)
- Upgrading weaponry and use of tech like drones and cameras.
- Emphasis on building Integrated Check Posts (eg. Tehrapole) to boost trade
- Effective intelligence to counter smuggler
- Not deploying BSF/SSB/ITBP in other areas and for other work (like VVIP security).

Q.17 What are the provisions of ~~the~~ The Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets (Imposition of Tax) Act, 2015? How is it different from the earlier laws to deal with black ~~to~~ money?

A The Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets (Imposition of Tax) Act, 2015 [UFIAA] seeks to replace IT Act, 1961 as the tax law for foreign income.

PROVISIONS

- Penalises concealment of foreign income.
- Criminal liability for attempting to evade tax.
- 30% tax on undisclosed foreign income
- One time compliance opportunity with a penalty of 100%.
- Penalty for offences related to non disclosure and defaults
- Punishment for wilful attempts of tax-evasion.

DIFFERENCE FROM OTHER BLACK MONEY LAWS

- Availability of a 'window of compliance' to pay penalty and avoid prosecution
- New law for taxation, distinct from IT Act.
- The most significant attempt to deal with black money abroad, the UFIAA seeks to persuade citizens into complying with disclosure provisions using the twin methods of 'compliance window' and punitive action)

Q.18 With the Golden Crescent and the Golden Triangle in India's neighbourhood, drug trafficking pose a great threat to India's security. Analyse. Examine the role of non-state actors in drug trafficking in India.

A. Golden Crescent refers to the tribal areas of Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia where opium is grown in copious amounts. Golden Crescent is the tri-junction of Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia in SE Asia which is another one of the major sources of narcotics.

THREATS TO INDIA

- Border States such as Punjab and Rajasthan are vice-prone due to proximity to the 'Golden Crescent'.
- Many insurgent groups in North East have presence in the 'Golden Triangle' and use

drug trafficking to generate income for their terrorist activities.

- Demand for drugs has been growing in urban centres and organized crime groups have established command chains here for drug distribution.
- The open borders with Nepal are used by smugglers to transfer narcotics into India.
- Drug trafficking generates black money and bolsters organized crime.

## ROLE OF NON-STATE ACTORS IN DRUG TRAFFICKING IN INDIA

- Insurgent groups such as NSCN(K) and ULFA are involved in drug-trafficking to finance purchase of weapons etc.
- Organized crime groups in Punjab are influential in drug smuggling and often go unscathed due to political connections.
- Cash from sale of drugs is used to finance terror activities in India, eg. sale of drugs from the Golden Crescent leads to influx of cash in Indian Mujahideen modules.

Thus, drug-trafficking is a very significant security threat and should be countered with a holistic strategy.

Q.19 India has put in place stringent rules to tackle money laundering. The growing challenge is compliance to Anti-Money Laundering legislations. What are the various constraints in compliance to legislations?

A. Money-laundering refers to the mechanism through which proceeds of crime are converted into legitimate assets.

ANTI MONEY-LAUNDERING ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA

- Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) which grants the Enforcement Directorate to seize, attach and confiscate assets.
- Financial Intelligence unit to track laundered money
- UFIA to counter black money.

CONSTRAINTS IN COMPLIANCE

- Inconsistencies in the PMLA Act such

as the artificial distinction between the 'predicate offence' and the 'money laundering offence'.

- Money laundering cases and predicate offences are investigated by different agencies leading to ineffectiveness
- Capacity of EA to tackle ML cases is small
- Financial Institutions, especially banks and corporates are not incentivised to take anti-ML measures.
- Generation of black money has to be stopped to tackle ML. Unfortunately, efforts in this direction have not yielded much.
- Most financial institutions perceive anti-ML measures as financial burden and ignore them.
- Rates of conviction in the PMLA Act are poor.

Effective capacity building and granting the same agency to investigate predicate offence and ML offence is the answer.

Q.20 The Supreme Court in its judgement on 26/11 slammed the media for its lust for TRPs, which jeopardized the security of the nation. Can the actions of media be justified in the context of right of freedom and speech? Discuss the principles and concerns that the media should keep in mind while covering such incidents.

A. During the 26/11 attack, the Media (especially the electronic media) acted in a hugely irresponsible manner. Instant news updates, without understanding their impacts on the operational efficiency of counter terror forces and without verifying their veracity, were aired.

■ ACTIONS OF MEDIA VIS-A-VIS FREEDOM OF SPEECH

- The freedom of speech has to be subordinate to legitimate interests of national security and public order. Hence, this argument

is not justified.

- Media channels were not airing the instant updates for updating the citizens. Rather, their decisions were driven purely from a commercial viewpoint and implications of national security did not matter.
- Their shows harmed the lives of our security personnel and affected their operations.

There is, thus, absolutely no justification for this deplorable act.

PRINCIPLES THAT MEDIA SHOULD KEEP IN MIND

- National security is paramount
- Any act which harms our security forces is tantamount to an attack on the nation.
- Sensationalisation by playing judge, jury and executioner should be avoided.
- Sensitive government information should not be made public, especially if it harms security.
- Live telecasts of military operations and counter-terror activities should be prohibited

CONCERNS

- Despite extensive debate, electronic media has shown no sign of relenting. In the recent attacks in Punjab, CT ops were displayed live.
- Any move to regulate media is decried as a move to curb fundamental freedoms.